

# THE TIMES

FRIDAY MARCH 5 1982

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# New Mary dea must to £75m strike bill

British Rail will get no help from the Government to meet the cost of the Aslef strike, estimated to be about £75m so far, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday (Michael Bailey writes). It would be "quite wrong" for the cost of the strike to be met by the taxpayer, he declared.

He is authorizing a rise in BR's short-term borrowing limits of £40m to £150m but that will have to be repaid. Any overspending in the board's operating financing will also have to be reclaimed by an adjustment next year. That means that both investment and operating costs will be affected, with extra job losses, cuts in services and delays in investment. BR said last night: "This confirms what we have been saying all along: that no one else is going to foot the bill for the Aslef strike."

## Keegan 'freed' for World Cup

Mr Kevin Keegan, the England football captain, will not have to appear in court during the World Cup, Mr Justice Michael Davies ruled in the High Court yesterday. He delayed until October the start of the action in which Mr Keegan is suing Public Eye Enterprises of Leeds for an irresponsible and sexist remark made to look "a complete and utter idiot" last week because he had been given the wrong date for the World Cup final.

## Tobacco pact attacked

Labour MPs tabled a Commons motion last night attacking the new agreement on the sponsorship of sports events by tobacco companies.

Mr David Ennals, a former Labour Secretary of State for Social Services, said: "The majority of people would now welcome banning all advertising of tobacco except at the point of sale."

## A Thatcher at LBC



Miss Carol Thatcher, the Prime Minister's daughter, at the microphone. She is to join LBC, the commercial current affairs radio station, as a morning phone-in programme presenter, and she expects later to have her own late night programme.

## Offer rejected

Union leaders of 90,000 power station workers rejected an Electricity Council pay offer of just under 8 per cent yesterday and gave a warning of possible industrial action unless a higher offer was made.

## Hesketh fails test

Lord Hesketh, who launched a 1,000 cc motor cycle earlier this year, failed his driving test in Northampton yesterday on a 250 cc Suzuki. He was failed for bad gear changes and riding too slowly.

## Correction

Burke's Peacock (Genealogical Books Limited), not Burke's Peacock as stated in our report on March 2, was sold to Baron Frederick Van Pallandt in January, 1980.

# TGWU will not ask members in leadership vote

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Transport and General Workers' Union decided yesterday to avoid an embarrassing repetition of last year's controversial "consultation exercise" on the Ben-Healey Labour Party deputy leadership election by the simple expedient of not consulting the members.

The 37 members of the union's lay executive examined various options designed to extend political decision-making to the branches and the shop floor, but came down in favour of preserving the status quo.

The decision leaves in the hands of a left-wing-dominated executive the most influential say on how the union's £250,000 budget should be used at the Labour Party conference when it sits as an electoral college to choose a leader and deputy leader.

Last year there was much political controversy after the TGWU delegation to the conference in Brighton cast the biggest block vote for Mr Wedgwood Benn, despite a regional "consultation exercise" that appeared to show a majority for his moderate rival, Mr Denis Healey, who then struck home by a majority of under 1 per cent.

After much discussion, trade union leaders and some of his political allies Mr Benn is not expected to renew his challenge to Mr Healey in the autumn. But if he does, or if another strong left-wing candidate appears, there will not be another attempt to hold a branch vote in the transport union on the merits of the candidates.

□ The new leader of Britain's largest Civil Service union yesterday set in train a purge of Militant Tendency supporters after alighting they had achieved "frightening power" in many branches.

Mr Alan Graham, general secretary designate of the Civil and Public Services Association, opened his campaign against the extreme left with a letter to members in the oppo-

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# Parliament March 4 1982

## dearly start on to reflect satellite broadcasting

## TELEVISION

The BBC has already put forward proposals for two DBS channels. One would be a subscription service including a substantial element of feature films and major sporting, cultural and other events not presently available for transmission on BBC 1 or BBC 2, the other a pay service which would draw on the best television programmes from around the world (and indeed from this country). This would be financed by a licence fee revenue which would probably include a supplementary charge for DBS.

The IBA and commercial television companies have also shown some interest in providing pay services but the plans are less well advanced. Additionally, more time will be needed to devise the right framework which would be likely to involve legislation.

In these circumstances the Government believes that the right course, if the necessary early agreements are to be reached between satellite providers and users, is to authorise a go-ahead with the BBC proposals.

The Government has therefore decided, in principle, that this country should make an early start with DBS, with an aim of having it fully operational by 1986. Because of the importance of making the early start the best course would be to have two channels initially.

Mr Whitelaw said: The House will recall the report of the Home Office study of DBS published last year. Realistic conclusions had been largely constructive and positive. The Government now sees a need for early decisions if the industrial opportunities which DBS offers the country are to be抓住 in good time in a situation in which there will be keen international competition.

The Government has therefore decided, in principle, that this country should make an early start with DBS, with an aim of having it fully operational by 1986. Because of the importance of making the early start the best course would be to have two channels initially.

The services would be transmitted at powers sufficient to permit both individual reception and collective reception by cable distribution. I intend to make a further announcement shortly about the future role of detailed proposals.

As regards finance, the Government expects the capital cost of providing the satellite system to be found in the private sector.

On the industrial side, various interests in the aerospace and related industries have shown that they are ready to play their part in this challenging new venture and we shall keep in close touch with them and with the domestic electronics industry to ensure that the economic benefits are effectively realized for the United Kingdom.

On the broadcasting side, it is clear that what is devised in a way that is consistent with our existing broadcasting arrangements, especially as regards supervision by a broadcasting authority and maintenance of proper programme standards.

## Staining a problem for pet food

## QUESTIONS

The Government would be supporting a Bill to increase penalties for trading in unfit meat. Mrs Peggy Fenn, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said:

Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) in the exchanges, asked what representations were received from the pet food industry in regard to the staining of unfit meat?

Mrs Fenn: Representatives of the pet food industry have indicated that they would not be opposed to a requirement to stain material emanating from knucklebones and unfit carcass meat (but not offal) emanating from sheep.

They have also commented on the type of stain which might be appropriate for this purpose.

Mr Atkinson: The House will be delighted with that positive response from the industry. Is she aware that although dogs are colour blind and therefore unable to distinguish between green and violet, the same is not true of cats? Pet food industry discussions should take account of that many pet owners could object to putting out violet or green coloured food for their pets?

Can she reassure pet owners that the stain used, it may be decolorised by the pet food industry?

Mrs Fenn: We are considering what stain should be prescribed and we are taking account of the views of the pet food manufacturers that they would like the stain to be colourfast, durable when the meat is heat treated and therefore does not give an unacceptable appearance to the pet food. But we shall certainly see the stain is immediately identifiable on raw meat?

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Derbyshire, Lab) has had a chance to see the letter from the workers at Heathrow in regard to the illegal transportation of unfit meat via Bombay and Bahrain? Is she prepared to take action to see this illegal action is stopped?

Mrs Fenn: The Government is most concerned that trade in unfit meat should be stopped. We are putting measures in place with a degree of urgency in order to stop any illegal trade in unfit meat and we shall be supporting his Bill to increase the penalties for these offences.

The Food Standards Committee has been invited to consider and advise on the need for specific controls on the composition and labelling of mince, Mrs Fenn said in a written reply.

She said the review would cover all types of raw minced meat including frozen mince. Particular attention would be paid to the fat content and description of the product.

Mr Buchanan-Smith: I have indicated that I agree with the recommendations of the review committee. It would be misleading to say that these proposed quotas have been exceeded by particular countries.

The Government has made its view perfectly clear on this to the EEC Commission and this underlines that if we are going to have effective controls, we must have an international and internationally agreed basis and internationally enforced.

## Dutch subsidies

Mr Peter Walker, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said: The EEC Commission was asked to examine the rules of the European fisheries and their vessels properly complied with the rules that such registration imposed.

Mr Mackay: That will be warmly welcomed. Will he press on the Board of Trade that they do something about this practice, which causes great annoyance to the British industry? The people should so abuse the rules and regulations and causes annoyance to the British public who do not like to see foreigners coming in and playing our rules so unfairly?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: This is deeply concerning the last year or so. There is a growing number of former Spanish vessels.

In addition to what Mr Biffen is doing already, there is a review taking place of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894. A consultation document has been issued, and the fishing industry invited to comment.

Mr Buchanan-Smith: I am deeply concerned that the industry should be able to compete with the rest of the world. The industry has been asked to take account of the situation when the meat is heat treated and therefore does not give an unacceptable appearance to the pet food. But we shall certainly see the stain is immediately identifiable on raw meat?

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## Bills remove barriers to marriage

## HOUSE OF LORDS

Two personal Bills, the object of which was to enable people related by marriage but not by blood to marry, received a second reading in the House of Lords.

The Revd John Francis Dore and Gillian Loder-Dore (Marriage Enabling) Bill was introduced by Lady Wootton of Abinger (Lab), who recalled that in 1976 a private Member's Bill had been presented to the House which had sought to enlarge the scope of relationships within which it was permissible to marry, particularly those who were related by marriage but not by blood.

John Dore, aged 66, and Gillian Dore, aged 49, wished to marry but were unable to do so because of the law which prevented stepmother and stepdaughter marrying.

Said it was widely recognized that the personal Bill procedure left much to be desired.

In the second case, the Hugh Small and Norma Small (Marriage Enabling) Bill, Lord Lloyd of Kilgreen (L), who moved the second reading, said the object of the enabling Bill was to allow people to marry, although they were stepson and stepmother. There were no ties of blood.

Technically, Hugh was the stepson of Norma, but at no time had he ever stood in loco parentis to her. They were mature adults of equal age and there was no ethical, moral, religious or social objection to marriage between them. Such a limited hardship upon the law served no purpose of public policy.

The Bishop of London (The Rt Revd Graham Leonard) said it was reasonable that such a marriage should take place.

The Archbishop of Canterbury had announced the intention to write to the Home Office on this matter to see whether some alternative to the personal Bill procedure could be devised.

There would be general sympathy for the two people concerned and in the circumstances it was right to refer to the Bill. Lord Belstead, Under-Secretary of State, Home Office.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) had asked for clarification of the position of research

assistants. He said that many complaints had been made to MPs about the presence of strange people in the building and they seemed to work strange hours. Many MPs were concerned that the facilities of the House were being abused.

Mr Clinton Davie (Hackney Central, Lab) said there was need for guidelines on employment of research assistants. There had been much unpleasant speculation and defamatory observations made about hard-working and decent Americans who are here to study and help MPs. They should not be made scapegoats for inadequate research conditions and facilities.

Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, explained during questions about forthcoming business why he had instituted an inquiry into the employment of research assistants in the Commons.

The Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill was read the third time and passed.

## Thatcher: S Africa tour a mistake

## PM'S QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, endorsed at question time what Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs, had said about the South African cricket tour by England cricketers, perhaps being a mistake. She had been pressed by Labour MPs to reply "Yes" or "No" to whether she condemned the tour.

Mr Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab) had mouthed half-hearted fence-sitting comments in this House on Tuesday in response to a speech by Mr Denis Howell (Birmingham Small Heath, Lab) and Labour spokesman on sport) who was passing most of the week behind the iron curtain in Russia.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West, C) On sport in South Africa, he said he could not understand why the Foreign Secretary had not put forward their detailed proposals for the Commonwealth Games and that the whole House wishes them to go ahead. I cannot find time for a debate on the tour of South Africa.

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## Judges get new power to defer sentences

By Frances Gibb

MPs yesterday agreed to suspend and cutting from new powers for judges and six weeks to 28 days the period that an offender must spend in custody.

Bodies opposed to the new powers, which include the Law Society, the Justice Clerks' Society and the National Association of Probation Workers, were cited by Mr Kilroy-Silk.

They feared the powers would lead to a rise in prison numbers, he said. Faced with borderline cases, courts would go for the easy option and give a partly suspended sentence rather than take the bolder step of a fully suspended, or non-custodial sentence.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, who is chairman of the all-party penal affairs group, abstained from the vote because he supported the intention behind the clause.

He said Home Office research had shown that when suspended sentences were first introduced courts used them where previously they would have imposed a non-custodial sentence.

Replying for the Government, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, said one could not ignore the opinion of the judiciary, who were going to impose the sentences.

Mr Mayhew, who was responsible for the power being included in the Criminal Law Act in 1977 when an opposition member, said that although it had never been implemented much had changed since then.

There was evidence that the judiciary had learnt from their mistakes over the suspended sentences and there was a much wider appreciation of their proper use. It was a reasonable gamble to ensure that the new power would be properly applied.

An internal police inquiry into the death, in custody, of a man aged 26 will be shown on BBC Television next Monday in the Police series, filmed with the Thames Valley force.

The man, who was drunk, was found in his cell, flat on his back, unconscious and vomiting. Despite attempts at resuscitation by policemen, he was dead on arrival at hospital.

The issue for the police was not any question of ill treatment of the prisoner but whether standing orders covering such situations had been carried out.

## Heathrow's volunteers speed the baggage

By Alan Hamilton

Passengers using terminal one at Heathrow have reported to British Airways that they have been able to collect their luggage more quickly since baggage handlers there went on strike nearly four weeks ago.

Airline officials also privately concede that passengers' complaints of pilferage have been almost non-existent, since the work was taken over by volunteers drawn from other departments of BA.

"I was out of the airport in half the time it would have taken me to collect my baggage from the bays," said a shuttle passenger who collected his suitcase direct from the aircraft hold.

Another of the scores who wrote to the airline said: "Grateful thanks for keeping the flights going and demonstrating how loyalty, common sense and an active conscience can show the foolish strikers up for what they are."

Far fewer complaints had come from customers about the strike than about the recent bad weather disruptions, the airline said. "Once they know what it is all about they are very understanding."

Mr Lindsay Todd, general manager at terminal one, conceded yesterday that the airline's target of clearing 90 per cent of incoming passengers' baggage within 25 minutes was being achieved more often than by the regular staff.

Their enthusiasm was partly responsible, he said. But the main reason was that BA had given up handling mail and cargo on its domestic and European flights while the dispute lasted. Only about 10 per cent of short haul flights are being cancelled, and long haul services are not affected.

The 2,000 regular ramp staff, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, are objecting to new rosters which they claim mean working from 17 to 30 extra days a year without extra pay.

About 350 volunteers a day, from aircraft captains to clerical staff, load, unload and clean aircraft, transport baggage, and drive the tractors which position aircraft on the ground.

The Lords ruled that Mr Honey was wrong to intercept the High Court application, but upheld the Divisional Court ruling that he had not been in contempt when he blocked the original letter. A cross-appeal by

Lord Wilberforce was dismissed.

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Mr Michael Lock, a designer preparing a Surrealist style model (left) wearing a Schiaparelli dress for the new costume gallery at Brighton Museum. The gallery, which opens in April, will feature the creations of famous couturiers of the 1920-50 period, many presented by the original owners.

## Prison governor loses Lords contempt appeal

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A former governor of basic rights to unimpeded access to a court.

Lord Bridge of Harwich said the evidence failed to establish that the stopping of Raymond's letter to his solicitor effectively impeded him in giving instructions on the conduct of his defence at Camberwell Green Magistrates' Court, south London.

Stephen Patrick Raymond, the prisoner, had tried to apply to have Mr Colin Honey committed for contempt after he stopped a letter from the prisoner to his solicitor.

The Lords ruled that Mr Honey was wrong to intercept the High Court application, but upheld the Divisional Court ruling that he had not been in contempt when he blocked the original letter. A cross-appeal by

the Lords was dismissed.

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## BIG GROWTH IN USE OF GATWICK

By Michael Bailey  
Transport Correspondent

Traffic through Gatwick grew by a quarter last year to make it the world's fourth biggest international airport after Heathrow, London, Kennedy, New York, and Frankfurt; it still had far fewer passengers than Heathrow, 10,700,000 compared with 26 million.

Gatwick has grown largely because many airlines were forced to go there when there was no room at Heathrow. Those airlines tended to be those which have produced more dynamic growth.

The trend is expected to continue despite the collapse of Laker, one of Gatwick's biggest users.

Charter traffic, on which Gatwick's fortunes were largely founded, remained virtually static last year, while scheduled services blossomed.

## First shot fired in Welsh water war

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Mr Dafydd Wigley, president of Plaid Cymru, yesterday returned to the Welsh Water Authority his unpaid bill for £267 for a year's domestic water supply and signalled the beginning of a campaign of civil disobedience in the principality.

Water charges are an emotive issue in Wales and the party is hoping that thousands of consumers will refuse to pay their water rates until "more realistic payments" are made by English authorities for their supplies.

Plaid Cymru considers that the issue cuts across the language divide and political affiliations and is urging people from all parties to withhold payment of their bills. Welsh Water Authority consumers are charged 30p in the pound compared with the 14p and 17p paid respectively by customers of the Severn-Trent and North West authorities, both of which extract millions of gallons from reservoirs in Wales.

Dissatisfaction in the principality was heightened by the recent decision of the WWA to raise its charges to the average household by 18.3 per cent.

The WWA has asked the Severn-Trent Authority to pay £4.5m, three times the present charge for the water it takes from Wales, but that has been rejected.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, are now involved in the dispute.

Mr Edwards has agreed that the WWA be reorganized to make it more efficient but he is determined to resist calls for a centralized water authority on the lines of other nationalized industries.

Earlier this week MPs attending the parliamentary committee on Welsh affairs were told by Dr Roger Thomas, the Labour member for Carmarthen, that the issue of water charges could cause instability throughout the principality.

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Bailiffs on trail of bookworms

Bailiffs are being used deal with people who fail to return library books. In a three-month experiment books worth £2,600 were recovered with £768 in fines and £111 for lost books.

Hampshire County Council has decided to make the bailiffs, who take 10 per cent of the debt recovered, a permanent feature of its library service.

Mr John Reynolds, who is in charge of administration for the country's 93 libraries, said that only a minority of missing books were caused by the forgetfulness. "Most of the people who keep library books do so deliberately."

If a book is not returned after two reminders we get in touch with the bailiff. I have known a person take a wheelbarrow load of overdue books to a mobile library."

### Stricken ship worries MP

Mr Gordon Wilson, the Scottish National Party MP for Dundee East, yesterday called for an urgent government statement on the potential danger caused by the cargo ship *Craigand*, which is aground off the Galloway coast with a cargo of dangerous chemicals on board.

Mr Wilson said: "Highly poisonous chemicals have been washed into the sea and I want to find out what the Government is doing to lessen the danger and prevent such an occurrence happening again."

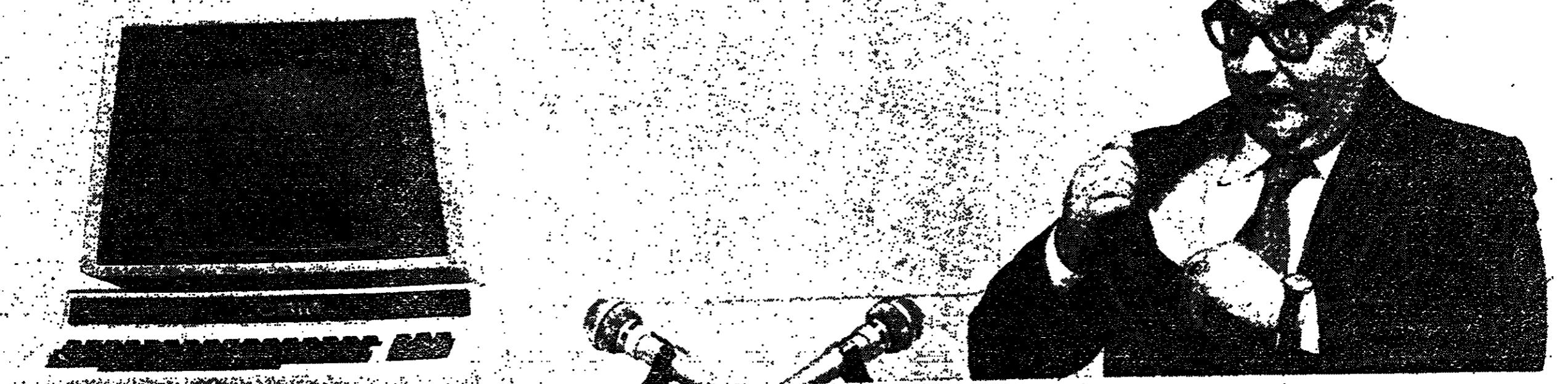
The Cypriot container vessel went aground off Portpatrick on Friday. Some of the deck cargo, including containers of chemical waste, has since been washed into the sea and police have warned people to stay away.

### Child murder charge remand

Martin Edward Beale, aged 49, was remanded in custody yesterday charged with murdering his daughter Rowan, aged two, at Hope Cove, Devon, on Tuesday.

Mr Beale, an unemployed craftsman, of no fixed address, is to appear again at Kingsbridge Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

**"A leading computer company shows that with prices from £200 to £9000 their micros can fit anyone's pocket..."**



It seems that even hardened money men who complain about cash flowing like treacle are very happy to invest in the PET, Commodore's microcomputer.

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Value is one of the first things that strikes people about Commodore computers. Talking to businessmen we found they were pleasantly surprised at just how much they could get for their money. And that applies right across the range, from our £200 home colour computer to the highly sophisticated £9000 superPET system.

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The most astute thing you can do now is send back the coupon and get the helpful free colour brochure that makes choosing a computer simple.

Next time we meet the man who crossed a microchip with a businessman and his secretary, and came up with a computer that worked late at the office.



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# Anger in Spain to killing by Civil Guards

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 4

Spain's Civil Guards are once again at the centre of a tragic error by Civil Guards which ended with the discovery of three burnt corpses on an Almeria roadside. They belonged to three young men with no criminal records who had been detained and interrogated by Civil Guards as suspected members of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization.

Last night after the burial of the youths, Ignacio Montoya, an unemployed labourer, all the region's leftwing forces headed by the Socialist Party of Andalusia, combined to issue a statement rejecting the official version of the shooting as "incorrect, and an insult to the victim". They demanded an investigation by Parliament.

The local Civil Guard authorities said a Civil Guard on duty outside the paramilitary organization's barracks identified the youths as two suspected thieves denounced earlier in the day by local farmers' wife.

The Civil Guard, according to the official version, fired one warning shot into the air. When the motorcycle failed to stop he fired three more shots at the youths. Ignacio Montoya was killed instantly, and his cousin was found by doctors later to have been shot through the spine.

Local people maintained that the youths failed to stop because they did not want to get a traffic fine. They pointed out that one hour elapsed between the woman's denunciation being communicated to Civil Guards on duty, and the two youths riding past the barracks. The youth's motorcycle possessed a mechanical part which the farmer's wife had noted was missing from the thieves' vehicle.

Last May Andalusia was

again at the centre of a tragic error by Civil Guards which ended with the discovery of three burnt corpses on an Almeria roadside. They belonged to three young men with no criminal records who had been detained and interrogated by Civil Guards as suspected members of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization.

Señor Juan Rosón, the Interior Minister, subsequently told Parliament that "irregularities" had occurred.

The latest blunder by the Civil Guards, who are widely feared and hated in Andalusia caused all banks, shops, bars, schools and even public offices to close all day yesterday in Trebujena following a protest motion passed by all parties on the town council.

The Civil Governor of

Seville replied by imposing a fine of 500,000 pesetas (about £2,700) on the town's leftwing mayor, as well as fines on local shopkeepers.

Madrid A deposition given in court today linked Major-General Alfonso Andrade, former deputy Army Chief of Staff, to the right-wing military plot to overthrow the Spanish governments despite earlier written testimony by the ex-adviser to King Juan Carlos that he was not part of the conspiracy (AP reporter).

The deposition was given in the ninth day of the court martial trying General Armada, 31 other military men and one civilian for military rebellion in the attempted coup a year ago.

A deposition by Brigadier-General Manuel Prieto, of the Civil Guard said the leader of rebellious Civil Guards claimed he was acting on the orders of General Armada.

From Paul Ellman  
Guatemala City, March 4

Caught in the crossfire between left and right the Roman Catholic Church in Central America is heading towards a big crisis, particularly over its role in the two strife-torn nations of El Salvador and Guatemala.

At the centre of the debate presently disturbing the church is the question of how far it should go in spreading the Christian doctrine of human dignity and brotherly love without becoming involved in revolutionary political movements whose members include Marxists.

Critics on the right, both political and ecclesiastical, argue that the church has already gone too far and is encouraging the spread of communism. Critics on the left accuse it of only surface commitment to social change.

This commitment stemmed originally from a desire to halt the spread of Marxist ideology. After Vatican II from 1962 to 1965, the Latin American church as a whole agreed to work to improve the lot of its adherents, particularly the impoverished inhabitants of rural areas. The church found itself in direct competition with those trying to foster the ideals of the Cuban revolution, seen as a model for Latin American nations.

As a consequence priests in El Salvador, for example, went to live in rural areas introducing villagers for the first time to the idea that they could liberate themselves from a brutish existence dominated by the harsh rule of the National Guard.

Not surprisingly, many of the guerrillas fighting in El Salvador still profess to be Christian Democrats opposed to the party's decision under President José Napoleón Duarte to share power with the military.

In Guatemala priests brought a similar message to the Indians who, while they



War toll: Salvadorean guerrillas collecting taxes from traffic on the Pan American highway

make up 60 per cent of the population, live on the margins of the country's life.

The mounting political violence in these two countries over the past two years has spared the church which has seen nine of its workers murdered in El Salvador and 12 in Guatemala, which has also banned foreign missionaries from entering the country.

The most spectacular attack on the church was the assassination in 1980 at the altar of San Salvador Cathedral of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez, who was an outspoken critic of the behaviour of the Salvadorean military.

Under strong pressure, not only from the right but also from the Christian Democratic Party, his successor, Acting Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, has been more circumspect, preferring to address himself in general terms to the need to "detoxify" El Salvador of violence.

Church circles, however, report that even this may not be enough to assuage the right and there is growing

pressure, inside and outside the church, for Mgr Rivera y Damas not to be confirmed in his post but for the archdiocese to be given to a non-Salvadorean.

The right has been encouraged by last week's public announcement by Pope John Paul II of the Jesuits for their radical activities which have often strayed from the conservative positions adopted by the Pope.

The Jesuits, who total about 300 in Central America, have long been among the foremost proponents of the so-called "theology of liberation" which right-wingers claim, differs little from Marxist doctrines.

"Before they used to see a Christian Democrat behind every Jesuit. Now they see at best a Social Democrat or, at worst, a Marxist," commented a member of the order, which has been threatened with outright expulsion from both El Salvador and Guatemala. "It's only because we are for a social situation which provides reforms and justice."

While the church's efforts

to improve the social conditions of its followers come under fire from the right, the Marxist left in Nicaragua has broken publicly with the hierarchy there.

Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo of Nicaragua last June warned that "After two years of hope, our revolution is heading towards Marxism on the Cuban model".

The Archbishop was a persistent critic of the late Nicaraguan dictator, Anastasio Somoza, who was overthrown in 1979. Lately he has been attacking the Sandinistas, who overthrew the dictatorship, for violating the human rights of the Miskito Indian population.

The revolutionary Government in Managua has resided, forcibly, in the centre of the country more than 8,000 Miskitos whose previous home was on the Pacific coast near the frontier with Honduras, alleging that they were collaborating with anti-Sandinista guerrillas.

The Sandinistas have asked the Vatican to send a mission of inquiry to look into the activities of the church in Nicaragua.

The fear that church unity could be shattered because of events in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua brought a dire warning from Archbishop Roman Arietta Villalobos of Costa Rica, who is also chairman of the Episcopal Council of Central America and Panama.

Warning that the church could end up unable to preach its message of conciliation and clearly hoping that the right and left will not force a schism, the Archbishop said: "I cannot accept the idea of support for violent change, since Christians have other ways. There nevertheless, have to be changes in social structures, because injustice is the cause of the problem, but armed struggle is not the way".

## Reagan claims US economy is turning

From Michael Hamlyn, Los Angeles, March 4

President Reagan went to his home state of California yesterday and decided to accentuate the positive. He declared that his Administration's economic policies were already beginning to work.

Addressing an audience of conservative California local government officials he launched his most powerful defence so far of his new federalism proposal.

Looking on the bright side, he told the audience, which included his daughter Maureen, a candidate in the Senate elections later this year, of the indicators pointing towards his success. "Inflation is down", he said. "In fact, it has fallen faster than anyone predicted. 8.9 per cent average for 1981 and only about 4.5 per cent for the past three months."

"Savings are up and the main incentives to save are just coming on line. What does that mean to the economy? Well, a 1 per cent increase in personal savings adds \$20,000m (£11,000m) in the investment pool of available capital."

"The prime interest rate, which still too high, has declined by 20 per cent. There may be some minor fluctuations, but the interest rate trend line is downward."

He declared that the economy was now poised for recovery and added: "It does prove that the medicine is beginning to work."

The President set about rallying the defence of his budget proposals which are being attacked on all sides, even by his friends.

He admitted concern over the nearly \$100,000m budget deficit he is proposing. "It's certainly taking its toll on the nerves of those on Capitol Hill", he said. But he defended that total pointing out that past deficits represented a far larger proportion of gross national product than his proposals.

"In the year we're coming out of the 1974 recession, deficits averaged 3.5 per cent of Gross National Product. Our projected deficit — big as it is — will only be 2.7 per cent of GNP".

Then he broadened the budget deficit argument into a wide ranging defence of his

new federalism proposals, linking the increased federal spending to the "expanding federal monolith".

He defended the concept of returning governmental decisions to local authorities with appropriate quotations from Thomas Jefferson, Chief Justice John Marshall, Calvin Coolidge and Will Rogers.

The new federalism so far has failed to excite much interest among the American public. The main fear of the proposal has been that it would be a cover for cutting back spending programmes, but Mr Reagan and his supporters have been at pains to show that there will be no losers. "While there are no losers," Mr Reagan said today, "the people will be the winners".

The President referred to a column written by David Broder, a normally implacable enemy of Reaganism, writing in *The Washington Post*, the most hostile of the establishment newspapers.

He said: "A major news columnist recently pointed out some politicians and pundits don't take the issue of federalism seriously. Many of them, he suggested, simply don't realize how fed up grassroot Americans are with the centralization of power and resources in Washington. The columnist concluded that it would be a political mistake to brush aside federalism." The President added: "Well, bless his little typewriter".

Mr Reagan referred to the fears of some people raised in an era when states' rights was a cover phrase for racism. "For the record," he said, "the new federalism is not meant to be and will not be permitted to be a step backward in the nation's commitment to civil rights".

In praising the development of voluntary service throughout local authority work the President announced the appointment of a private sector survey chief who will root out inefficiency and the waste of taxpayers' dollars in the federal Government. The new chairman of the survey is Mr Peter Grace, chairman and chief executive of the chemical company W.R. Grace.

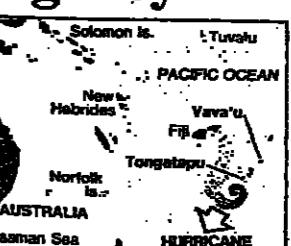
## Cyclone-stricken islands face food emergency

Sydney, March 4. — Five Australian Air Force transport aircraft left tonight with relief supplies for the Pacific island kingdom of Tonga, where at least two people have died in a cyclone.

Most telephone lines to the islands have been cut by Cyclone Isacc, although officials confirmed that two children had been killed and seven were missing and feared drowned.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission, which managed to make telephone contact with the islands today, said 50 people had been treated for injuries.

The news editor of Tonga radio said in an interview that there was a desperate need for food and supplies.



All power had been cut on the main island of Tongatapu and in the capital, Nukualofa, houses had been washed away by flood waters.

Most buildings in the town had been damaged by the cyclone, which first hit the Tongan islands on Tuesday night, but is now moving away.

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## Palestine dispute jars Mitterrand's Israel visit

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 4

Differences about the Palestinian problem have ended the initial harmony of the first visit to Israel by a French head of state.

During a special session of the Knesset Parliament today, M. François Mitterrand, the French President, and Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, dwelt at length on their diametrically opposed views about a possible solution.

M. Mitterrand reiterated his strongly held opinion that it was wrong for outsiders to interfere in the Middle East problem. He said the task of finding an answer should be left to the peoples of the region. "France will not act as an arbitrator or as a mediator."

M. Mitterrand addressed the chamber from the podium used by the late President Sadat in November, 1977.

Mr. Begin replied from a wheelchair positioned by his usual seat, but the hip injury he is suffering from did nothing to diminish the fierceness of his rhetoric.

He denied that the setting up of a Palestinian state in the West Bank would provide

symmetric justice. "Can the people of France really allow themselves, after all that has happened during the Second World War, to render support to the design of handing over the mountains of Judea and Samaria to an enemy bent on our destruction, as itself proclaims in its infamous charter?"

Reiterating what had been said during private meetings with the French, Mr. Begin described the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) charter as the "Arab edition of Mein Kampf".

He quoted from an exchange which he said took place in London two weeks ago between "Mr el-Hassan," [Arafat's [the PLO leader]] and a correspondent of the Israeli newspaper Davar.

Mr. el-Hassan was quoted as saying: "Zionism is the Satan. We don't negotiate with it."

On Israel, he allegedly said: "It is based on the Zionist doctrine, then it has no right of existence, and we have no intention of negotiating with it."

## Gaddafi threatens to go to war with US

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 4

Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, appears to be on the verbal warpath once again. Only a day after he claimed that the United States had conspired with Saudi Arabia to starve Libya of its oil market, he announced in Tripoli today that if America violated Libya's territorial waters his country would go to war with the United States.

"If America enters the Bay of Sidra [Sirta]," he told a rally in the Libyan capital, "war in the full sense of the word will begin between us and them, war with planes, navies, missiles and everything."

In August last year, two American fighters shot down two Libyan Air Force jets over the Gulf of Sirta during United States naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean. The incident was followed by a series of antagonistic speeches by Colonel Gaddafi against the American Government, an onslaught which President Reagan's Administration obligingly returned in kind.

The Libyan leader long ago realized that to be a public enemy of the United States was to gain the favour of Third World countries and left-wing Arab nations. The Americans have never failed to support this image by denouncing the colonel as a terrorist leader.

Angered by what he regarded as an American boycott of Libyan oil sales in the United States, Colonel Gaddafi said that he would

"be ready to sit down face to face and negotiate with America to discuss what we can do to establish relations between two countries in this world."

"But this boycott . . . is unreasonable in international relations because America is a big power and its relations with smaller countries should be unbiased. America should have self-respect and not attack a small country like Libya which has only two to three million inhabitants."

American tend to regard Colonel Gaddafi's latest fulminations as a product of the mouse that roared, but this is only half the truth.

For there has been an important shift in the loyalty of Libya's publicly proclaimed Arab enemies.

In the past, the Egyptian leadership has always formed the object of Colonel Gaddafi's hatred with Saudi Arabia's monarchy running a close second. Now, Saudi Arabia is being portrayed as an American lackey while all mention of the Egyptian Government has disappeared.

It seems that Colonel Gaddafi is looking forward to some kind of rapprochement with the Egyptians under President Mubarak, at the expense of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudis, according to the Libyan leader, were trying to "drown" the world oil market in crude oil at the cheapest price because they wanted to "starve" Libya.

"Saudi Arabia has declared a war of famine, an economic war against us," he said.

**37 Sinai families evicted**

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, March 4

Security forces stepped up the eviction of Israeli squatters from Sinai settlements before the scheduled return of the territory to Egypt on April 26. Buses took 37 families from three settlements today.

The expected rush of Stop the Withdrawal activists to resist the evictions did not materialize. A few approached, but were turned away. The evicted put up token resistance.

At Talmei Yosef, where 22 families were removed, petrol-soaked rags were set ablaze at one entrance to the village and a car parked across a road at another. In the afternoon the forces evicted more people from near Aradim and from Ma'ale Hayam.

Bona fide residents of the villages are being allowed to stay until March 31. Most accepted compensation and are committed to move. The squatters have taken over farms and houses of families who have been moved to Israel.

An activist said anti-withdrawal movement's moderation was tactical: it was decided to avoid overt confrontations with the Army, but to smuggle supporters past road blocks and into the region at night.

Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Jewish Defence League leader, arrived today at Yamit, the main Sinai settlement, and said he was setting up a new headquarters and wanted volunteers to "meet force with force".

Witnesses said soldiers arrived at the settlements today without arms. The squatters delayed evictions but troops were patient. Women soldiers helped the families to pack and men helped to load lorries. The squatters were taken to Beersheba.

At Talmei Yosef the eviction was held up as some families produced papers attesting that they were bona fide residents. One settler was detained on suspicion of forging identity papers.

## Radiation kills atom plant man

Toronto, March 4. — An Ontario nuclear worker has died because of radiation in his work, a spokesman for Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd said today. Another worker at the same plant had a disability award for cancer believed to have been caused or aggravated by radiation.

Both have been long serving employees at the Atomic Energy of Canada nuclear reactor research centre at Chalk River, Ontario, near Ottawa.

The company's admission of radiation-related cancers among its former workers could have important implications for the industry, for standards of radiation exposure and for hundreds of nuclear workers in Canada and abroad.

The two men developed typical radiation-related cancers although they never received more than the current maximum permissible dose of radiation during their years at Chalk River. Both received Ontario Workers' Compensation Board awards in 1981 based on the company's acknowledgement to the board that their exposure to radiation was a possible or contributing cause of their cancers.

One man retired in 1981 after 28 years as a radiation worker. He was diagnosed as having cancer of the skin and neck. The other retired earlier after 31 years' service and was confirmed as suffering from leukaemia.

Chalk River's 2,200 workers were briefed earlier in the week about the cases, the spokesman said. He added:

"We have always believed there was an increased risk of cancer due to radiation exposure."

## CORRECTIONS

A report from Warsaw published on March 3 stated that the Palestinian Abu Daoud was shot dead there last year. He survived the attack.

A Washington report yesterday should have stated that \$218.3m (£110m) allocated for space defence represented less than 0.01 per cent of the proposed 1983 United States defence budget.



Welcome to India: Mrs Indira Gandhi greeting President Karamanlis of Greece in Delhi at the start of his four-day state visit.

## Union fears grow in Greece

From Mario Modiano, Athens, March 4

International labour organizations have expressed grave concern over the abrupt changes of leadership in the Greek trade union movement after the Socialist Government came to power.

A combined delegation from the European Trade Unions and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, which just spent 24 hours in Athens, raised the matter with Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister. The crisis broke out when unions affiliated with the ruling Socialists challenged before a tribunal

the validity of the elections at the nationwide labour congress in October.

These unions obtained a court injunction deposing the elected leaders of the Greek General Confederation of Labour and appointing a new Government union officials. The verdict of the tribunal has not been issued but the appointed confederation leadership took over the delicate negotiations with employers' associations on the national pay scales.

The Higher Arbitration Court fixed minimum wages at 825 drachmas (£7.50) yesterday and the lowest monthly salary in the private sector at 18,500 drachmas (£1,269). This tallies exactly with the increases granted by the Government in the public sector. It was known that the Socialist Cabinet was particularly anxious that these levels should not be exceeded as they could upset economic planning.

Opposition critics have accused the Papandreou Government of engineering the takeover of the confederation to neutralize pressures from its left and its right.

## Convention fails to halt mass murder

By Caroline Moorehead

The Genocide Convention, drafted in the aftermath of the Second World War by signatories universally horrified at the devastation caused by the Nazis, has significantly failed to eradicate what they termed an "odious scourge" against mankind, according to a new report published by the Minority Rights Group, International Action Against Genocide.

Given the United Nations' inability to act, Professor Kuper advocates some sort of early warning screening system to prevent genocidal conflicts occurring, the appointment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights, the eventual setting up of an international penal court, and the continuing efforts of non-governmental human rights organizations everywhere, working to keep such atrocities ever before the public eye.

International Action Against Genocide is the MRG's fifty-third report and appears as the organization celebrates its tenth anniversary. Born in the wake of Biafra, MRG set out to do for minorities what Amnesty International does for individuals: bring to the attention of the world the plight of persecuted groups. Like Amnesty, it has tried to report on all geographic and political systems, in as impartial a way as possible.

International Action Against Genocide by Professor Leo Kuper (£1.20 plus 30p postage) and other reports can be bought from MRG, 36 Craven Street, London WC2.

In June, 1978 Taylor Woodrow went to sea when we acquired an interest in Seaforth Maritime Ltd.

Based in Aberdeen, Seaforth is one of Britain's major offshore support and ocean contracting companies in the oil and gas industries. It is particularly involved with ships, engineering and land-based services.

Embarking on this rather unusual venture for a construction company was something we saw as a logical move. In fact it's all part of our commitment to the development of those new energy sources so vital to Britain's industry and homes.

That's where the sails will play a very important role. Taylor Woodrow, in close partnership with GEC and British Aerospace, is harnessing wind power to provide electricity.

## Why a construction company which went to sea is raising sails on land.

played a significant role in the development, civil engineering and construction of six nuclear power stations.

Add to that our involvement in coal mining at home and abroad, oil and gas exploration, and an office in Houston, focal point of the world energy business: then you will have some idea of Taylor Woodrow's commitment in helping

to solve the world's pressing energy problems.

Work will soon begin on the construction of a giant 'windmill' to generate power into the grid system on Orkney. With a height of 75 metres it has two rotating blades whose overall diameter is 60 metres. This one machine will eventually supply the islanders with electricity equivalent to the requirements of over one thousand homes.

Projects like Orkney will make Britain world leader in this form of alternative energy source, a field in which Taylor Woodrow has already

If you would like to know more about us please contact: Ted Page, Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited, Taywood House, 345 Ruislip Road, Southall, Middlesex UB1 3QX. Tel: 01-582 3666 Telex: 244288. Regional Companies: St Albans Road, Stafford, Staffs. ST16 3DS. Tel: 0785 3261 Lingfield Way, Yarm Road, Darlington, Co. Durham. DL1 4PS. Tel: 0325 62794 5-6 Park Terrace, Glasgow, G3 6BY. Tel: 041-532 2623 Telex: 778496. Or, for Overseas: Don Venn, Taylor Woodrow International Limited, Western House, Western Avenue, London W1 5IEU. Tel: 01-997 6641 Telex: 23505.



EXPERIENCE, EXPERTISE AND TEAMWORK, WORLDWIDE  
**TAYLOR WOODROW**

Poland: Western anger

# Britain refuses to accept enforced political exiles

By David Cross

The British Government has served notice on Poland's military authorities that it will have no truck with any attempt by them to force internees into exile.

A statement issued by the Foreign Office yesterday said that the Government had no intention of becoming an accomplice of the Polish authorities in resolving their internal problems by exerting pressure on internees to leave Poland against their will.

Any such move would appear to be at variance with their declared commitment to dialogue and reform, the statement added.

The Foreign Office was responding to an announcement by the Passport Office of the Polish Internal Affairs Ministry that the 4,000 people still interned nearly three months after the imposition of martial law could apply to emigrate with their families from the middle of this month.

This was a reiteration of earlier hints from Warsaw that the military authorities wanted to get rid of unwanted opponents by encouraging them to leave the country.

The Foreign Office said that the Government would only consider applications for resettlement from Polish citizens who genuinely wanted to leave Poland. Such applications would be dealt with in accordance with

normal procedures covering such immigrants.

The Government is already considering an alliance in Nato and the European Community to present a common front to the Polish authorities on how to respond to any enforced emigration policy. It is confident that the United States, where most refugees would probably want to go, and Western Europe share its views.

The Government intends to seek an early meeting with the Polish authorities in Warsaw both to press home its condemnation of any pressure on internees and to seek clarification of details of the Passport Office statement. It is still not clear how the military authorities hope to proceed.

Meanwhile Mr Frank Chapman, general secretary of the electricians' union, yesterday called on all British and other European trade unions to boycott Eastern block exports and imports until martial law was lifted in Poland.

It was announced that 42,000 poles who were abroad when martial law was proclaimed had returned to Poland while 96,000 remained outside the country. Any Polish citizens, even those who made prior requests for political asylum, could return and no sanctions would be taken against those "who did not carry out activities hostile towards Poland".

A State Department statement said: "This is a glaring

admission of the Polish regime's inability to meet the democratic aspirations of the vast majority of the Polish people."

■ Warsaw: Fifteen detainees have asked permission to leave the country, the official news agency PAP reported yesterday (AFP reports).

A senior Foreign Ministry official said 219 people had been released from detention camps while 64 others had been interned since February 23. Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said that the military had so far seized 696 weapons, including machine guns and ammunition.

The Polish authorities said last week that people detained under martial law could be released provided they promised not to threaten state interests. Mr Urban today specified that the required declaration of loyalty was legal and not political in character.

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Leading article, page 13

## Warsaw ideologists fight a war of shadows

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, March 4

What do you think of Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the Deputy Prime Minister? The thickest, police-sergeant features of Mr Albin Siwak contrived a look of simultaneous boredom and deep thought, there was a pause of 10 seconds and then, gruffly: "This is a complex issue. One could say a dangerous question. We may both see the way forward but we have different goals."

Mr Siwak, talking in this instance to a foreign television camera, is what Western analysts describe as a hardliner, the toughest, most vociferously pro-Soviet member of the Politburo. Mr Rakowski is what analysts characterize as a liberal Marxist, or "moderate". Both are leading members of the Polish United Workers' Party which showed itself yet again at the Central Committee session last week, to be neither united nor of great relevance to the workers.

Even so, general Wojciech Jaruzelski could visit Moscow this week with at least the feeling that his "moderate" line had triumphed and that Moscow would acknowledge the desirability of limited reform, under the codewords "socialist renewal".

But what do these categories "moderate" and "hardline" really mean? If last week's plenum proved anything, it was that the old labels have become redundant and are more of a handicap than an aid to understanding the Polish situation. How "moderate", for example, is it to keep more than 4,000 people interned without trial for over two months?

At the emergency party congress last summer it was possible to talk realistically of reformists, moderates and hardliners because the reference point of Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, still existed. The liberal reformers in the party were those like Tadeusz Fiszbach of Gdansk, who wanted to create a party responsive, in a democratic way, to the Polish people's needs, answering the questions raised by Solidarity, indeed in some ways competing against it as the voice of the workers.

The hardliners — though some, like Mr Stefan Olszowski, conceded the need for economic reform — saw Solidarity as a threat to Communist Party control, a

By contrast, Mr Siwak's

## Pipeline sanctions worry Moscow

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 4

Reacting sharply to President Reagan's campaign to prevent the construction of the 3,000-mile gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe, the Russians said today the pipeline epitomized the differences between the United States and its Nato allies.

A commentary by Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya said Western Europe repeatedly had made it clear to the American Government that it was not going to pull out of the project, now the Americans were now trying to invoke sanctions not only against the Soviet Union but against West European firms taking part in the deal.

The commentary did not say that President Reagan has decided to delay a decision on whether to prohibit the export of parts to the Soviet Union by European subsidiaries of American firms until hearing the

views of Mr James Buckley, his special envoy now consulting West European governments.

But it described the pipeline as a "kind of touchstone" for relations between the United States and Western Europe, and said America attempts to block the project set a very dangerous trend in the international division of labour.

There is no doubt the Russians are seriously worried by Washington's campaign against the pipeline, which is of critical importance in ensuring future valuable hard currency earnings for the Soviet Union.

The Russians have been heartened by the insistence of West Germany, the main Western financier of the \$5,000m project, on going ahead with the supply of high-pressure steel pipes, agreed in contracts signed last autumn. But Moscow is

being cautious in voicing approval of West Germany's stand for fear of adding ammunition to the critics of Bonn's policy.

Meanwhile the Russians have been issuing reports over the past week suggesting that they can perfectly well manufacture most essential parts for the pipeline and its pumping stations themselves.

Tass said yesterday that large diameter, multi-layer pipes made of cheap low-alloy steel were now being made in Donetsk and in the Ukraine. These could withstand pressures of up to 120 atmospheres and would be used to transport gas. Another report yesterday said the Russians had begun full-scale production of heavy-duty pipe-laying equipment and machinery for automatic welding of large pipes.

However, the key parts that the Russians will have to

import — the rotor blades for the pumping station turbines — can come only from the United States. Western economic analysts say the Soviet Union is far behind in the technology needed for their manufacture, although it has begun working on the process.

The gas pipeline is due to be completed by 1984, and is the biggest project of the current five-year plan. It is essential if the Russians are to exploit the vast, untrapped gas reserves of the Urengoi field and in the Yamal peninsula in the far north of Siberia.

The gas will be piped to the Czechoslovak border and then on for distribution to six Western countries. Gas exports amounting to 40,000 million cubic metres a year are expected to compensate for the falling demand for Soviet oil, which is becoming increasingly expensive to extract.

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## New effort to find Namibia formula

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 4

The five-nation Western contact group is to make a new attempt within the next few days to resolve a problem which is holding up final agreement on the first phase of their revised settlement plan for Namibia (South-West Africa).

The problem centres on the "one-man-two-votes" proposal for constituent assembly elections which will precede the granting of independence to the disputed territory.

Under this dual election system half the seats in the constituent assembly would be filled by proportional representation and the other half by single member constituencies. The aim is to make it more difficult for the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) to obtain the two-thirds majority in the assembly needed for constitutional changes and thereby to provide assurances to South Africa and the territory's 100,000 whites that minority rights will be protected.

The proposal has been accepted by South Africa but rejected by Swapo and the black "front line" states. The five members of the contact group — Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada — are now considering ways to get around this impasse.

One option would be for the contact group to go back to the black states and try to convince them that the election plan is not as complicated as it appears and

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Rutter said was he had produced, albeit, on a triple regression, a slater questioned, researcher, the HMI had a similar view on "Ten Good

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Dennis Hackett

## Television

## Recycling exercise

*On Golden Pond* (A)

Odeon, Haymarket

*Mad Max II* (X)

Warner West End, Classic, Haymarket; Studio, Oxford Circus

Imposters

ICA

Dear Boys

Roxie Cinema Club

He told *Forty Minutes*, who covered his activities in Seven in the Nick of Time on BBC2 last night, that he did it for money, but also because preservation is a worldwide way of earning a living, and he was entirely convincing. He has learnt that "the bigger the lot, the fewer the customers", but despite this allows romanticism to override economics and even rescues things he knows "have great white elephant potential". One such was a marble fountain with bronze embellishments that could impede progress around his Chelsea warehouse for some time.

He would prefer that Britain retained her relics but, as there is not much money about and as business in any period is business, he has to recycle much of his salvage in America where the appetite for things of yore, anybody's yore, is voracious.

So an old sweeping staircase is packaged for Mrs Douglas's Heaven on Earth establishment in Houston, an interesting-sounding place that caters for the matched and despatched, being both a marriage parlour and a funeral parlour.

We did not see Mrs Douglas—too busy, I should think—but we did see Mrs Bobby Wolfe whose husband, Fletcher, is founder and director of the Atlanta Boy Choir. The boys were singing "Nymphs and Shepherds" out in the garden, which was full of relics from here and there, including a porch rescued by Mr Mead from a Victorian house in Beckenham. "Fletcher and I have been recycling since before we were married," confided Mrs Wolfe, and it started for a moment before the camera moved from her to the trophies.

However, some things do stay at home. We saw a tenor bell being hoisted high at Canterbury Cathedral, recycled from a peal of bells from a disused church at Marylebone, and a clock from the same church now in working order. The clock cost £198 10s to make in the middle of the nineteenth century; now it would cost £12,500. Then there was the belle époque conservatory which somehow found its way from France to Knightsbridge.

Mr Mead earns his living quite often, as when removing the clock, at some risk. Apart from the feeling that he is doing a good job, he said, "can be very satisfying at times". This contribution to the *Forty Minutes* series, which is also to have an extended life, was well produced by Robyn Wallis.

**Dennis Hackett**

He is tetchy, watchful, wily, devastatingly precise in timing and delivery. She soars along on her own mannerism and dazzles with sudden intimations of infinite depths of feeling beneath the

eccentric surfaces. The small boy, Doug McKeon, makes a wholly equal third to the team. He is round-faced, blond, suspicious and wholly believable in the slow, unwilling process of making contact with another and very alien human being.

The reason this kind of piece, in which the manipulation of situation (an accident that puts Norman's life at peril; another near-death scene to wring tears; the tidy resolution of life-long misunderstandings), and consequently of our sentiments, has been so long mistrusted, is that sentimental manipulation and artifice are taken to imply untruth. But the quality of this film, like a lot of older melodramas, is that the manipulation and artifice only work because the premises on which they are managed are in essence truthful. The characters are unquestionably truthful; and they are used to demonstrate truths as well as traumas. There is a lot of real pain in Norman's fear and hatred of age ("I don't want crowds of people watching me turn older"); he grieves at the prospect of a birthday party, even when it is expressed in a style and tone that sometimes recall W.C. Fields. There is a sense of real love in their crochety marital bickering. They tell us, too, that the assumed obligation to like one's relatives can often mean hell; that a quaint old man may well have been a younger s.o.b. and now deserves to pay the price for it.

In an old-fashioned and positive sense, too, the film is very moral. It sets out quite consciously to persuade us that the old are human too, that they may still have things to teach, and love-left in them. It tells us (as Ethel Sayer teaches the child) "Sometimes you have to look hard at a person and realize he's doing the best he can". They are old moral lessons, but not bad things to hear again when they are well said. Earlier films by Mark Rydell—The

A bond that leap-frogs the generations: Doug McKeon with Henry Fonda

*Reverses*, *Cinderella Liberty*—showed the same direct, persuasive concern with the problems and the rewards of simply trying to understand other people. He is generous with charm and pleasures: the performers are given a background of elegiac mood and scenery (the lakeland is photographed by Billy Williams in predominant twilight gold). These are the sort of frank and innocent pleasures about which it would be foolish to be superior or derivative or sophisticated.

*Mad Max II* offers the most extreme contrast. The original *Mad Max* was made for peanuts; but the starting skin of its director, George Miller, in directing violent action made it the biggest grossing film Australia had so far exported. The sequel has the benefit of a great deal more money, has a great deal more violent action, handled with the same verve and culminating in a prolonged automobile chase, and carries Australian movies to a new stage of infantilism.

The action of the new film takes place a year or so further into the future predicted by its predecessor. Global conflict escalating from the Middle East has wiped out urban civilization. Wild... marauding gangs... ageing punks and cycle boys... roam the outback, and make sorties against a little outpost huddled around a solitary oil drill, the last source of wealth, into this country rides *Mad Max*, as an unwilling Moses who eventually leads the people to the promised land—the tourist resorts of the Queensland Gold Coast.

It amalgamates every sort of movie myth, magic and reference. The plot is classic Western, and some of the characters are vaguely garbed as braves and squaws. There are touches of martial arts and sword-and-sorcery (the villains wear visors and use crossbows); there is a Shakespearean fool who rides a helicopter and plays Sancho to Max's Don; and a feral cave-child.

David Robinson

## Opera

Nina

Playhouse, Oxford

Of all the composers who tried to write opera in an age that had been made, for Mozart, Paisiello was one of the most successful, and *Nina*, or *Mad for Love* one of his most widely acclaimed creations. It was first produced in 1782, the year before *Cosi fan tutte*, and it reached London in 1792, when this paper was emigrated. "The string of sensibility", my predecessor declared, "seldom ceases to vibrate to the electric touch of this exquisite composer."

Well, maybe. One of the virtues of Seamus McGuire's production for the Oxford University Opera Club, only the second revival anywhere in modern times, is that it is not by any means convinced Paisiello had his

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James M. Cain's *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, already filmed three times, has now been turned into an opera. Stephen Fauk's work will be given its premiere at the Opera Theatre of St Louis, Missouri, on June 17. There are plans to bring it to the Edinburgh Festival in 1983, together with St Louis's production of Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda*, which was highly praised on this page last summer.

Also on this year's St Louis season is the American première of Prokofiev's *Maddalena*, of which Edward Downes has completed the orchestration.

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## The Arts

## Cinema

## Emotional touch of the old master



A bond that leap-frogs the generations: Doug McKeon with Henry Fonda

## Concerts

## A tricky acoustic

LSO/Abbado

Barbican Hall/BBC, Radio 3

The new concert hall in the Barbican Centre seats its audience at three levels, the front row very close indeed to the low dais on which the orchestra sits. The Queen sat in the front row of the circle; behind and above that is a further circle. Leg room, at the back of the stalls, is ample for a tall person; the seats encourage upright posture, are softly upholstered, and wide enough for this fat Englishman's hips.

When you are seated, the appearance of the auditorium is bright and striking, with peanut butter-coloured wood on the gangway steps and behind the orchestra, the latter's facing curiously shaped to suggest oriental woodwind, or perhaps the pipes of an organ which, we gather, is not there. Above and to the side are red and white striped wooden surfaces, which look like Battersea cake.

In the ceiling the lights are enclosed in what look like inverted brandy balloon glasses, a sparkling effect. On the wood-faced side walls there are small vents, as if for boxes, although they are not for occupation.

I hope that the hum of air-conditioning may be silenced in the auditorium before the next concert: it was a nuisance at the beginning of Elgar's Cello Concerto. For an orchestra as finely tuned as the LSO is when playing for Claudio Abbado, the acoustics of Barbican Hall are tricky at the moment, perhaps more for the audience than for the orchestra. The opening bars of Wagner's *Meistersinger* overture sounded reassuring, big and round in tone, more appetizing than they would in the Royal Festival Hall; the woodwind chirped vividly in the apprentices' section. At other times the string sound was unnaturally shrill, and cantabile violins seemed to lack body in Beethoven's fourth piano concerto.

Both were contributions to an occasion rather than interpretations to remember for ever. The players have the opportunity, too, for changing their minds: a welcome feature of Barbican musical programmes is that each work will be performed several times in various concert contexts.

One's first and most influential impression of the Barbican centre as a place for listening to music is of an Italian conductor in charge of the Barbican's resident orchestra, a Japanese cellist in the Elgar and a Russian-born pianist in the Beethoven. The cello and piano told well by themselves: curiously enough Yo Yo Ma's account of the Elgar was, as showy in self-expression as Vladimir Ashkenazy's reading of the Beethoven's.

William Mann

which, as in Stockhausen's earlier *Mantra*, encapsulates the work's entire energy. Here, though, the process of genesis before it appears complete is further systematized and expanded through a fantastically ingenious and sensitive schema of metre, instrumental timbre, dynamic and finally pitch. The ear is taught to recognize a seemingly inexhaustible pattern of attributes which the eye endorses, in a corresponding chromatic scale of 13 prayer gestures which translate sound into "action melody".

Not until after the "formula" had been presented and its consequent harmonic and polyphonic evolution set into motion could I engage with the work at anything but a cerebral level. For all its emphasis on ritual, on performance, for all its freshness of aural perception, extended through electronic sound projection (Stockhausen's son Markus at the controls), Stockhausen's laborious didacticism of the work's idea, only emphasized by the mindless visual aids, seemed irritatingly self-conscious, at times even condescending.

As the latter half progresses and the music's internal energies and conflicts are hatched from idea, the sense of adoration, of wonder at least at the workings of the composer's own micro-world burgeons and begins to engage outside itself. But it seemed too late. As composer-conductor walked off, following the upward path through the orchestra taken by the mime artists, Elizabeth Clarke and Alan Louaf, poised on a raised dais above the conductor, knelt before their maker and *Inori*, "adorations for one or two soloists with orchestra", began.

At the heart of the 70-minute work is embedded a musical germ or "formula"

## Dance

## Martins confirmed in Balanchine's favour



Peter Martins himself with Darij Kistler in "The Magic Flute".

with audiences has been considerably amended, and its amplifications are generally a considerable improvement. With new settings by David Mitchell and pleasant peasant costumes by Ben Benson, the ballet looks attractive and even modestly opulent — a rarity for the decoratively spartan City Ballet.

Yet why Martins, or perhaps more specifically Balanchine, wanted this antique reconstruction that draws, to some extent, on Martins's Danish schooling and his familiarity with the narrative ballets of Bouronville.

Martins's revision of the ballet, while possibly unnecessary in the first place — although even that is arguable since it adds to the thin variety of the repertory — has been achieved uncommonly well. Despite the boring score, Martins has with help of passing god and magic instrument, gets girl away from parents and

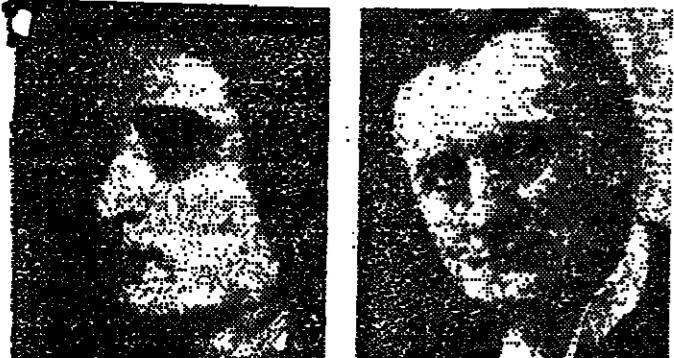
marauding marquis — for an exercise of style, his own and the company's. Its bucolic humours are damply and campily acceptable and the ballet should prove popular.

In the première the leading roles were buoyantly danced by Pavlova, but there were some apparently unwilling to accept as much. What Martins has done is, of course, not a revival of the lost Ivanov choreography, but a pastiche reconstruction that draws, to some extent, on Martins's Danish schooling and his familiarity with the narrative ballets of Bouronville.

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## Foreign Secretaries from the American Revolution to Zimbabwe



Charles James Fox (1782-83) — a humiliating treaty; Sir Edward Grey (1905-16) — foreign affairs dominated politics; Anthony Eden (1935-38, 1940-45, 1951-55), Selwyn Lloyd (1955-60); Lord Carrington (1979) — coping with Britain's vulnerability to external events

## 200 cheers for the F.O.

by David Watt

The mild and suitably parsimonious rejoicing ordained by Authority this month to mark the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Foreign Office and the Home Office, will not, I suppose, be joined in with universal fervour even in Whitehall. The first of these great Departments of State has never been particularly popular in the world at large, still less in the rest of the official machine, by which it is traditionally regarded as stand-offish and too big for its boots; the second has become generally notorious (and not without some justification) for obscurantism and official ham-handedness.

And yet some kind of celebration is surely in order. For one thing, the original idea was such a bright one. Before the reorganization of March 1782, administration was managed — or rather mismanaged — by two geographical departments, the Northern and the Southern, in one or other of which miscellaneous affairs of state, whether domestic, foreign, or colonial, were shovelled higgledy-piggledy.

History does not relate, so far as I can make out, to whose clerical mind — or when — the blinding revelation was given that things might be better organized by distinguishing those matters which required direct administration (i.e. the home and colonial) from those (i.e. the foreign) which needed quite different diplomatic techniques. But it was undoubtedly a flash of genius that deserves recognition even two centuries later.

Another good reason for rooting around in the dusty attics of bureaucratic history in this fashion was pointed out by Professor Michael Howard in his brilliant commemorative lecture at Chatham House yesterday. The 1782 departmental reshuffle was made possible — perhaps, in part, even prompted — by one of the worst pieces of misman-

agement ever perpetrated by a British Government, namely the loss of the North American colonies.

Lord Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown five months earlier brought down Lord North's ministry and opened the way to change, even if it meant that one of the first duties of Charles James Fox, newly-minted Foreign Secretary, was to negotiate the terms of a humiliating treaty.

There are distinct continuations in contemplating this wreckage, not only as a example of good coming out of evil, but as a reminder of how calamitous Britain's position then appeared to be. The British past was bright and powerful; the future looked bleak and impoverished; lamentations and predictions of limitless decline filled the air. The fact that within 50 years Britain had become the superpower of the nineteenth century does not prove anything about our national future in the twenty-first century, but it puts a fresh perspective on our present discontents.

To my mind, however, the most interesting aspect of the anniversary is presented by the question of bureaucratic demarcation with which I began. There is an intriguing irony in the fact that we are celebrating the convenient and successful division of our administrative arrangements into internal and external affairs, at a moment when the lines between the two are becoming more and more blurred.

Important consequences flow from this, as they also do from the fact that most other countries are in the same boat. One is that the coordination of British policy in the conventional fringe policy field becomes increasingly complicated. The proliferation of Cabinet committees is necessary to prevent "wires getting crossed", and that in turn gives more power to the Cabinet Secretariat at the

expense of Departments. Mrs Thatcher's half-hankering for a formal Prime Minister's Department has, I gather, been abandoned for the time being, but the force of circumstances is moving things steadily in that direction.

Another result is that the Foreign Office, if it wishes to keep its end up in Whitehall, is obliged to spawn experts on a large variety of subjects formerly regarded as outside its expertise, while at the same time to keep a firm control of public expenditure, has amassed experts in foreign and defence policy. All this strengthens the hold of the Civil Service in general over policy — at the expense of departmental Ministers, including Foreign Secretaries, who cannot carry everything in their heads and would kill themselves if they tried.

In the long run it must also affect the position of the Foreign Service itself. The Central Policy Review Staff Report on Overseas Representation (written mainly by domestically orientated advisers) recommended four years ago that the Home and Foreign Services should be amalgamated on the ground that many of their functions now overlapped. This take-over bid was premature, and was successfully shaken off, but the bidders will undoubtedly be back before many years are out, and they will not always fail.

The future of the office of Foreign Secretary itself is harder to predict. The ease of modern communications and the tendency of governments, particularly in the Third World, to be identified with individual politicians, has made Foreign Secretaries intensely peripatetic, and it is doubtful whether this has actually enhanced their importance or devalued it.

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by making them into glorified ambassadors when they should be at home, making policy and fighting their corner in Cabinet.

The crucial factor in all this, naturally, is the Prime Minister. It has always been open to Prime Ministers to appoint weak Foreign Secretaries and to run their own foreign policy. Some, like Gladstone and Salisbury, did so even in the nineteenth century, just as some, like Attlee and Mrs Thatcher, have been more or less ready to do the reverse in modern times.

Their own bent and the political needs of the moment will obviously continue to produce wide variations. But again, the long-run trend, here and perhaps throughout the world, seems likely to be at the expense of the existing institutions.

Because domestic politics and domestic economics are at the mercy of international politics and economics, these last are too important to be left to Foreign Offices.

There is an awkward dilemma here. Britain will need to employ diplomacy (defined in Sir Ernest Satow's celebrated words as "the application of intelligence and tact to the conduct of relations between governments") more skilfully in the next 20 years than ever before because influence must now do the work of power.

We have in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office a superb professional machine for executing this purpose. But the question is who is to make policy over the enormous field in which the external and internal factors merge and over which commentators, television pundits, parliamentarians and voters are now swarming.

The Foreign Office would claim to be able to fulfil this function as well, but with the best will in the world and even with an able Foreign Secretary it is hard to see how they can do it.

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## A budget to come to the aid of all parties

by Frank Field, MP

The public discussion on the run-up to the Budget has the same unreal quality about it as in previous years. Almost all the talk centres on how little room there is to manoeuvre and yet, more than likely, the Chancellor will make little mention of the hundred or so tax reliefs or tax benefits, to describe them more accurately — which exempt more than 50 per cent of the nation's personal income from tax.

Here is an issue on which MPs across parties should be able to find some agreement. A radical reform of all the tax benefits offers the chance to increase personal freedom. Tax benefits are granted only if taxpayers spend their money in a way which the Government thinks is desirable. Reform offers the chance of cutting the rates of tax — so increasing the taxpayer's freedom of choice — while increasing expenditure on social security benefits.

Means — tested benefits build a ceiling over the heads of the poor, thereby cementing them into poverty. Others, like child benefit, act as a float on which people can build by their own efforts without being penalized. Additional expenditure here allows claimants to spring themselves from poverty. The individual and collective gains on the freedom front should be clear to most taxpayers.

Three tax reforms are essential if increasing personal freedom is to be a main aim of government policy. The first is to allow all tax benefits at the standard rate of tax only. By itself, this change will bring in something like £75m in extra revenue.

A second reform is to put a cash ceiling on all tax benefits other than the personal allowances. How such a policy would work can be seen if we take just one of the main tax benefits. About £2,000m is paid out as mortgage interest relief. It would be wrong to wipe out this benefit overnight, but a cash ceiling could be applied at the current level, and this sum spread over a growing number of owner-occupiers in succeeding years.

The gains from this particular reform are considerable. Had it been implemented in 1975, the additional revenue from applying a cash ceiling policy to just four tax benefits is shown in the table below. Over a five-year period the savings

would have amounted to over £3,800m and, in the last year alone, the Exchequer would have collected an additional £1,800m which illustrates just how fast the expenditure on tax benefits is growing.

A third reform must centre on redistributing income from men to women, while at the same time persuading taxpayers to spread more effectively the income earned from age 40 years' work over the 40 years' life span.

The large increase in revenue resulting from reforming the welfare state should be earmarked to raise the tax threshold, to cut the rates of tax, while at the same time beginning to rebuild the welfare state so that it acts as a floor on which people can build by their own efforts.

A key benefit in remodelling the welfare state is the child-benefit scheme. The larger the injection of funds into this scheme, the greater will be the decrease in the numbers of poor families. And because child benefit is deducted from social-security payments, the larger the child benefit the greater the incentive to work for those low wage earners with children. Similarly, a major child benefit increase will begin to redress the additional tax burden placed on family taxpayers since 1979.

A flourishing child-benefit system has other advantages. It transfers income from men to women and it increases the range of choices, and thereby the freedom, enjoyed by families. The importance of child benefit in helping to determine the type of society in which we live is therefore difficult to overstate.

But the necessary funds for it will be found only if politicians are prepared to reform the tax-benefit welfare state. For this to happen will require MPs to take a broader viewpoint than the traditional class approach to the Budget which has dominated debates for the last hundred years to more.

The author is Labour MP for Birkenhead

'Given the low-level of support to families with children in the past, we should not penalize those families now just because

their children have reached maturity'

both parents are working and the children have grown up. Given the low level of support to families with children in the past, we should not penalize those families now just because

they have reached maturity.'

Savings on selected tax benefits by applying a cash ceiling 1975/76  
Total savings by 1980/81  
Life assurance premiums £740  
Mortgage interest relief 2325  
Pension schemes 570  
Retirement annuity relief for the self-employed 190  
Total 3825

## How Kincora could still harm Ian Paisley

Symbols are important in Northern Ireland. As Martin Smyth, Presbyterian minister, Grandmaster of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland and official Unionist parliamentary candidate, canvassed a Belfast housing estate a few days ago, he carried a crumpled Union Jack in one hand, as he shook voters' hands with the other.

The Rev William McCrae of the Free Presbyterian Church, campaigning a mile away, had an equally potent symbol. He was preceded by the head of his church and leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, the Rev Ian Paisley.

In competition for the South Belfast seat left vacant by the murder of the Rev Robert Bradford, the DUP and the Official Unionists have slung clerical mud at each other across that half-forgotten gulf which divides

Ulster's unionists. Although the bickering this week reached the threat of wrists, not one word is about the issue which dominates many conversations away from the hustings and which could alter the shape of Protestant politics: the Kincora homosexual scandal.

That murky story, which combines sex and paramilitary violence in one topic for gossip, will continue to haunt the province's politics long after the result of the by-election is known this afternoon.

Back in the early 1970s

British ministers and civil servants cherished the belief that the Official Unionist monopoly of the Protestant vote should be allowed to dismantle itself. If the idea

was to liberate usefully moderate tendencies it has not worked out that way. The subsequent intense competition in intransigence between Paisley and the declining Official Unionists has steadily cut down areas of possible political agreement between the Protestant and Catholic communities.

The by-election has been

billed as an index of whether

the Official Unionists can

stop Paisley's bandwagon,

but the figures suggest that

even if the Official Unionists

hold on to the seat — and

they probably will — it may

not stop Paisley's rise.

In local elections last year

his party became the first

non-Official Unionist group

ever to exceed a 20 per cent

share of the vote.

What with the wine and the canapes, and the wine and the music, and the wine and the fireworks, and the wine and the music, supper, such disorientation was inevitable.

A pikeman dropped his pike on

the head of Anthony Camden, the London Symphony Orchestra's chairman, just as he was to be presented to the Queen. The man

sitting next to PHS during the Royal Shakespeare Company's pantomime fell asleep, snoring loudly.

The most bracing part of the

evening was when the dinner jacketed throng met the yelping and whining residents of the firework flats as the Reverend Ronald Landon's fireworks exploded above the spire of St Giles' Cripplegate in fantastic pyrotechnical celebration.

Collins-Harvill, the imprint which published Doctor Zhivago, has secured rights to an "anti-revolutionary" epic which terrified the Soviet authorities even more than Pasternak's great book. Vasily Grossman's *Life and Fate* was completed in 1962, and promptly impounded by officers of the KGB who seized not only the manuscript, typescripts and rough drafts, but even the writer's ribbons and fragments of paper pasted over Grossman himself was not arrested, but he said that the arrest of his novel made him feel as if he had been strangled. He died 18 months later.

One other manuscript has been confiscated in such a way — Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago*, which is a mine of factual historical information which might otherwise have been obliterated.

Though Grossman was

the first writer in any country to

describe a Nazi extermination

camp in detail, *Life and Fate* is a

traditional, realistic, historical novel, comparable in scope to *War and Peace*.

Grossman was told before he

died that there could be no hope

of the novel being printed for

the next two or three centuries, yet

two copies of the complete text

recently reached an American

Russian man-of-letters in Paris.

The acquisition of the English

language rights was negotiated

by Mark Bonham-Carter, a

member of the publishing board

## Lost loos

They keep moving the loos, one hapless guest complained to PHS at the glittering, swishing carnival that was the official opening of the Barbican Centre got underway on Wednesday evening. Are we on level seven or eight another puzzled?

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At this moment in time PHS must accept that trade union talk has worked its way to a ruling situation as far as the English language is concerned. Opening the Barbican Centre, the Queen said: "At the end of the day . . ."

## Tops at talking

We may not be good at much but PHS can reveal, Britain has regained its position as the biggest talking shop in the world. Figures to be published on Monday by the Union of International Associations in Brussels will show that London hosted as many international conferences as Paris last year (292 each), but that the United Kingdom was a whole, with 545, beat France and the United States to top the international league.

Blithely unaware of the rumours swirling around Moscow at the moment, President Brezhnev yesterday went to the theatre, taking half the Poliburo with him. They saw a new play about Lenin, entitled "Thus We Will be Victorious" at the Moscow arts theatre. The performance was officially declared a "great success".

The Soviet leader does not often go to the theatre — ice

hockey matches are more his line of enjoyment — but this play, starring one of the country's top actors Alexander Kalyagin, is certainly special.

For those determined to see

conspiracy theories around them, there is a nice irony in the visit.

The play deals with Lenin's final year of life and the question of his succession. Recently the youngest member of the Politburo, 51-year-old Mikhail Gorbachev, went along and led the applause. Lest any inference might be drawn, President Brezhnev was accompanied yesterday by Arvid Pelsle, at 83 the oldest Poliburo member.

## Russian RUMOURS

It is the superb and youthful cast of Julian Mitchell's *Another Country* at the Queen's Theatre it is fair to single out Kenneth Branagh only because without him the play would never have reached the West End. Robert Fox, the producer, had to fight to get him, because Branagh comes to a leading role straight from the

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THE TIMES FRIDAY MARCH 5 1982

## NO CREDIT IS DUE

The western response to events in Poland is still in a mess. It is now nearly three months since martial law was imposed, and nearly two months since the Nato meeting in Brussels agreed in principle on sanctions, including the suspension of commercial credits. So far these sanctions have had the effect of making life slightly more difficult for the Polish regime. They are to help the Polish people, western bankers and East-West relations by nudging the Polish system towards reforms which will restore prosperity to Poland, increase its ability to repay its debts, and provide the basis for normal and open relations with the West. This inevitably involves respect for human rights because the system will not operate effectively without a degree of consent from the people. The argument that a military regime can pull the economy together better than a more democratic regime is suspect. Production has dropped since December, except in the mining industries. The West therefore has no political or economic interest in making life easier for a neo-Stalinist regime. The blunt message should be that if the Russians insist on having such a regime in Warsaw, they should pay the full price for it, which means taking over the full burden of Poland's economy and paying its debts. If they do not like this, and want the West to share the burden, then they must listen to western conditions. This is not "unwarranted interference", but basic banking.

What is the West to do? Polish liberals who have been sent to the West on missions of persuasion argue that western sanctions are helping the hardliners by reducing the standard of living and pushing the Polish economy into closer dependence on Moscow. It is difficult to accept this reasoning. Western sanctions are limited and conditional. It has been made clear that they will be lifted when martial law is lifted, the internees are released, and dialogue resumed with Solidarnosc.

## SWORDS AND PLOUGH SHARES

Mr John Nott's announcement about increasing the reservists and providing adventure training for a few thousand unemployed youngsters is to be welcomed, as far as it goes; but it does not go very far. Last June he said that the Government was determined to give greater emphasis to the reserve forces, and this has now resulted in an increase of 16,000 men in the Territorial Army. No increase, however small, should be desired, but Mr Nott has failed to go to the heart of the question of reserve military power, and he should try again.

Britain's strategic defence policy is based on the principle of nuclear deterrence. However, since the abolition of conscription, all Governments have found it convenient to hide behind that policy as being the only defence policy we need, on the ground that the only danger we face is of a total breakdown of deterrence rather than a partial one. Hence we only need a nuclear bomb, with a small number of volunteers armed forces backed up by even fewer reservists.

This goes against the whole principle of reserve power, which should be based on the view that — in peacetime, or relative peacetime such as we have — one's standing force should only be allowed to contract if the reserve forces correspondingly expand. In

the choice therefore lies with Warsaw and Moscow. They can get the sanctions lifted any time they want by carrying out the promises made by General Jaruzelski when he imposed martial law. If they are unable or unwilling to do this it is their fault, not ours, and they will have to face the consequences.

Western interests are clear. They are to help the Polish people, western bankers and East-West relations by nudging the Polish system towards reforms which will restore prosperity to Poland, increase its ability to repay its debts, and provide the basis for normal and open relations with the West. This inevitably involves respect for human rights because the system will not operate effectively without a degree of consent from the people. The argument that a military regime can pull the economy together better than a more democratic regime is suspect. Production has dropped since December, except in the mining industries.

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To throw the entire Polish economic mess into the lap of the Russians would be logical, specific and very expensive for the Russians, but if they want an oppressive and incompatible regime in Poland they should take full economic as well as political responsibility.

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## THE CANDID FRIEND

President François Mitterrand is to be congratulated on his visit to Israel. He has shown that, even in the Middle East, courage and honesty are not necessarily incompatible with a certain diplomatic finesse.

It would have been much easier for him to avoid going there. No European head of state has ever done so before (unless we count Pope Paul VI in 1964). The unanimous advice of the French foreign ministry must surely have been against it in view of the danger that it would severely damage France's standing in the Arab world, which is worth hundreds of millions of dollars in commercial contracts. Events since his election, which twice caused him to postpone the visit — the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, in which a French technician was killed, and then the annexation of the Golan Heights — could easily have been taken as a pretext to cancel it altogether.

M Mitterrand chose to disregard those arguments, for reasons which are surely honourable. He has always been regarded, and evidently regards himself, as a "friend of Israel" — hardly a personal friend of her present prime minister, but a friend of the Jewish people and a strong believer in their right to an

independent existence in their own state, the state of Israel. The role of a friend, when he disagrees with you or believes you are behaving badly, is not to turn his back on you. It is to seek you out and tell you honestly what he thinks. This is something the Arabs can understand, for it is an Arab proverb which says: "Your friend is he who tells you the truth, not he who keeps telling you you're right."

Personal ethics, it may be said, are not necessarily the best basis for international relations. But they are not the worst either. Whatever is the correct route to a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict, it surely must lie through an improvement of communications on all sides rather than through cutting them off. The Arabs are a case for regarding as an enemy someone who gives practical help, especially in a military form, to a state which is refusing to relinquish occupied Arab territory. They should not so regard anyone who seeks simply to maintain channels of communication with that state, including communication at the highest political level.

By speaking frankly to the Israelis, and in particular by voicing his opinion that the Palestinians — like the Israelis

to make the western message convincing the first step is to move faster and more effectively with the sanctions agreed in Brussels. This will be difficult. The western system is based on free enterprise and free competition, so it cannot easily harness commerce to politics. There is also a natural reluctance to lose good contracts and the jobs that go with them. Nevertheless, if the West is to be taken seriously it must be prepared to make sacrifices, and there are certain things that governments can do, particularly with regard to credits.

If these moves have no effect the West should make a direct threat to declare Poland in default. Obviously,

if carried out, this would

create serious problems in the West. Some western banks would go bankrupt unless supported. The PSBR would be raised by the need to honour government guarantees.

But the consequences for Poland would be worse

because it would be reduced to trading in cash, and it

cannot do without western trade. There would also be repercussions on the rest of eastern Europe. On balance, therefore, the bargaining power is with the West. It should be:

The West therefore has no political or economic interest in making life easier for a neo-Stalinist regime. The blunt message should be that if the Russians insist on having such a regime in Warsaw, they should pay the full price for it, which means taking over the full burden of Poland's economy and paying its debts. If they do not like this, and want the West to share the burden, then they must listen to western conditions. This is not "unwarranted interference", but basic banking.

To throw the entire Polish economic mess into the lap of the Russians would be logical, specific and very expensive for the Russians, but if they want an oppressive and incompatible regime in Poland they should take full economic as well as political responsibility.

Mr John Nott's announcement about increasing the reservists and providing adventure training for a few thousand unemployed youngsters is to be welcomed, as far as it goes; but it does not go very far. Last June he said that the Government was determined to give greater emphasis to the reserve forces, and this has now resulted in an increase of 16,000 men in the Territorial Army. No increase, however small, should be desired, but Mr Nott has failed to go to the heart of the question of reserve military power, and he should try again.

Britain's strategic defence policy is based on the principle of nuclear deterrence. However, since the abolition of conscription, all Governments have found it convenient to hide behind that policy as being the only defence policy we need, on the ground that the only danger we face is of a total breakdown of deterrence rather than a partial one. Hence we only need a nuclear bomb, with a small number of volunteers armed forces backed up by even fewer reservists.

This goes against the whole principle of reserve power, which should be based on the view that — in peacetime, or relative peacetime such as we have — one's standing force should only be allowed to contract if the reserve forces correspondingly expand. In

the choice therefore lies with Warsaw and Moscow. They can get the sanctions lifted any time they want by carrying out the promises made by General Jaruzelski when he imposed martial law. If they are unable or unwilling to do this it is their fault, not ours, and they will have to face the consequences.

Western interests are clear. They are to help the Polish people, western bankers and East-West relations by nudging the Polish system towards reforms which will restore prosperity to Poland, increase its ability to repay its debts, and provide the basis for normal and open relations with the West. This inevitably involves respect for human rights because the system will not operate effectively without a degree of consent from the people. The argument that a military regime can pull the economy together better than a more democratic regime is suspect. Production has dropped since December, except in the mining industries.

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## Case for Belvoir coalfield

From Mr Madron Seligman, MEP for West Sussex (Conservative) and others

Sir, The letter from Mr Joe Gormley (February 27) answers Mr Ronald Butt's article about the proposed development of north-east Leicestershire coalfield with a strong argument in favour of the need to exploit the UK's natural resources. However, the case for proceeding with this project is even wider than that.

The European Commission supported the development of this coalfield at the public enquiry, arguing that the European Community "must maintain a substantial and economically viable coal industry to avoid still greater dependence on imported energy". A healthy coal mining industry as the Government has often said, plays a vital part in Community security as well as economic strategy.

At present the demand for coal is artificially low, due to worldwide recession. Consequently stocks are building up and people are questioning the need for additional mining capacity. This can only be a short term view.

By the year 2000 it is calculated that European coal consumption will rise from the present 314 million tons to over 500 million tons a year, as supplies of alternative fuels, oil and gas, decline.

Great Britain's coal industry will have a key role to play in this situation, by investing in new capacity. Even so, it is estimated that Europe will still be dependent on imports of coal in the year 2000, amounting to some 240 million tons against the present 74 million tons.

Furthermore, unless new mines are opened, skilled miners will have no jobs to go to when their present mines are exhausted, and the community will afford to lose such men, who are, by family tradition, prepared to work thousands of feet underground.

The environmental impact of deep mines on "green field" sites can be greatly reduced if precautions are taken from the beginning. While the first coal from the new north-east Leicestershire coalfield will probably not emerge before the early 1990s we must be sure that any effect on the local environment is reduced to the absolute minimum.

When their national service was over, each man was asked the question on a slip of paper: "Do you consider you have benefited from your period of national service?" No signature was required. Over 90 per cent answered "Yes".

The psychologists and the sociologists won the day.

National service was abolished and cannot now be restored but 25 years later to blame the "undermanned and overpaid armed forces", self satisfied "at their professionalism" is hardly fair.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN COWLEY,

Whitemole, Sandy Down,

Lymington, Hampshire.

March 3.

Troubled Poland

From Mr D. P. McLaughlin

Sir, Two cheers for your generous leading article, "Portrait of a party man" (February 24).

Your reasoned assessment of the political difficulties faced by the Polish Deputy Premier, Mr Rakowski, offers some redress for the offence occasioned by the shrewd and ill-mannered interview by Ms Fallaci which you published on the Monday and Tuesday.

The travails of Poland is too tragic a matter for the Poles, the Soviet Russian sphere of influence, and the world, to be trivialized by the personality-clashing prose of irate journalists.

More power to the elbows of campaigning commentators, but the apparently wilful failure of Ms Fallaci to honour the paten integrity of this troubled politician angered and saddened me. The fact that I am concealed by your leading article does not help me to understand why you bought the Fallaci piece in the first place.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID P. MC LAUGHLIN,

8 Northolt Road, Islington, N5.

From Mr Norman Gear

Sir, I may protest against the appalling distortion of Marxist philosophy which appears in the leader column of your paper today (February 24). You write,

in connexion with the Polish Deputy Premier, "he speaks as a true Marxist when he utters the chilling remark that 'in politics the individual does not count'".

Anyone who has read Marx will know that throughout his life he stressed the right and the need of the individual to fulfil his unique nature within a just society. It was Marx's argument that it was the capitalist system which denied, frustrated and perverted human nature. Looking around Western Europe today, with its ever more tasteless commercialism and its millions of unemployed, who can deny that he was right?

Yours sincerely,

NORMAN GEAR,

55 Caerleon Road,

Dinas Powys,

South Glamorgan.

Page of honour

From Mr William Shawcross

Sir, If as your diarist alleges,

(February 26), the enemies of

the New Statesmen, consider him

"the Pol Pot of British journalism"

, then no one would want

such people as friends. Far from

being a force of evil and wanton

destruction, Bruce Page is a

brilliantly creative and original



## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

#### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen visited the Annual Stallion Show of the National Light Horse Breeding Society at Newmarket today and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk (Sir Josias Northey, Bt) and the President of the Society (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller).

Her Majesty later honoured the President of the Society with her presence in the audience in the Stables Rooms.

The Hon Mary Morrison, Mr Robert Fellowes and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present this evening at a Gala Evening in aid of the Order of St John and The Prince's Trust at the Barbican Centre for Arts and Conferences. Major John Winter and Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips continued her visit to Northern Ireland today.

Mr Roy Higginson, attended by Miss Victoria Long-Bourke, later returned in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to Royal Air Force Lyneham.

By command of The Queen, the Earl of Avon (Lord in Waiting) was present at Horse Guards Parade, London, this morning upon the arrival of the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda and Lady Jacobs, and welcomed their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. J. White and Miss T. M. Hugo The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Major and Mrs Jeremy White, of Leckhampstead House, Buckinghamshire, and Emma, youngest daughter of the late Mr E. H. Lightfoot and Mrs U. E. A. Lightfoot, of Withington, Manchester.

Mr D. A. Lyons and Miss U. E. A. Lightfoot The engagement is announced between David Anthony, younger son of the late Mr C. J. Lyons and Mrs S. Lyons of Claygate, Surrey, formerly of South Zimbabwe, and Ursula, youngest daughter of the late Mr E. H. Lightfoot and Mrs U. E. A. Lightfoot, of Withington, Manchester.

Mr G. J. Palmer and Miss S. E. Holt The engagement is announced between Graham, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Palmer and Mrs J. E. Palmer, of Oxford, Kent, and Sharon, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. G. H. Holt, of Kemsing, Kent.

Dr S. D. W. Payne and Dr A. L. Wright The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Dr and Mrs E. Payne, Cardiff, and Ailsa, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Wright, Portlaoise, Kilkenny.

Mr C. J. H. Roberts and Miss C. M. Tanner The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Edward, of Rotherham, Yorkshire, and Catherine, second daughter of Mr C. R. Tanner, of New Barnsley, and Shirley, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. D. Field, of Redhill, Surrey.

Mr G. I. A. Chapman and Miss S. J. Field The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. Chapman, of Muray Road, Wimbledon, and Shirley, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. D. Field, of Redhill, Surrey.

Mr C. J. Colville and Miss M. A. Banks-Martin The engagement is announced between Jonathan Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Colville, of Ivy House Farm, East Malling, Kent, and Mary Ann, younger daughter of the late Mr H. Banks-Martin and Mrs M. J. Banks-Martin, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

Mr R. Gillis and Miss A. Burland The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Harry Gillis, of Sandy Lodge, Carnoustie, and Anna, daughter of Mr David Burland and the late Mrs David Burland, of 1 Denewood Avenue, Birmingham 20.

Mr P. Hamilton and Miss J. Oddy The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Hamilton, of Felpham, Sussex, and Julie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Noel Oddy, of London, SW1.

Mr J. E. D. Hughes and Miss K. J. Peek The engagement is announced between James Edward David, younger son of Mr T. G. E. Hughes, of Duwerny, and Mrs M. H. Hugo, of Plymouth, and Katherine, daughter of Captain and Mrs W. P. Peek, of Hazelwood, Loddiswell, Devon.

Mr T. A. Mitchison and Mrs D. S. Kahn The engagement is announced between Terence, son of Professor and Mrs D. A. Mitchison, of Richmond, Surrey, and Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. V. Kahn, of Kinnerton Street, SW1.

## Record for Bakst watercolour

Leon Bakst, designer for Diaghilev, topped Sotheby's sale of Ballet and Theatre material yesterday when his exotic water-colour of "La Sultane Juane" sold for £33,000, more than doubled the previous record for the artist of £17,050, paid at Sotheby's last October.

The water colour, in turban, slippers and little else, was painted in 1915 and owned by Bakst's own oriental ballet "Schetzerade", which caused a scandal in its time. Another Bakst design for a "Negro Dancer" also made a record at £19,250, only to be broken yesterday by Bakst's "Sultane". Yet another Bakst, his vivid costume design for "Judith", complete with severed head of Holofernes, from the opera of 1920, made £15,000, and by far the most popular and "Fantasy of Modern Fashion, Atlante" also by Bakst and signed and dated 1912, sold for £9,600 to an anonymous buyer. A design for "Le Roi d'Yver" or "The Dusseul figures", of about 1926, sold for £3,740 and Natalya Goncharova's "Abstract Portrait of Natacha", went for £3,080.

A Victoria Cross awarded on December 22nd a world record of £22,000. The buyer was an anonymous English collector bidding by telephone against a London dealer. The Victoria Cross was awarded to Company Sergeant Major Stanley Hollis of The Grenadier Guards, and with seven other medals it was expected to fetch about £20,000.

### "La Sultane Juane", sold for £33,000

Hollis was awarded the Victoria Cross for his part in the assault on the Sultane's beach, single-handed and later in the day rescued two of his men trapped in a house by enemy gunfire. The sale of medals realised a total of £190,227.

After the Chinese Government had withdrawn collecting legal in the late 1970s, the market grew rapidly and a Stanley Gibbons auction of rare stamps held in Hongkong on March 3 and 4 realised just over £11,000 (our

estimate).

A rare block of 23 pairs of Hongkong 20 cent stamps of 1976 with a double perforation sold for £2,777 and a sheet of 25 one cent Chinese first issue "Dragon" stamps of 1878-83 made £1,944.

Philatelic Correspondent writes:

More than 100 people attended,

mostly Chinese, and at least

double that figure made postal

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postage history, including an

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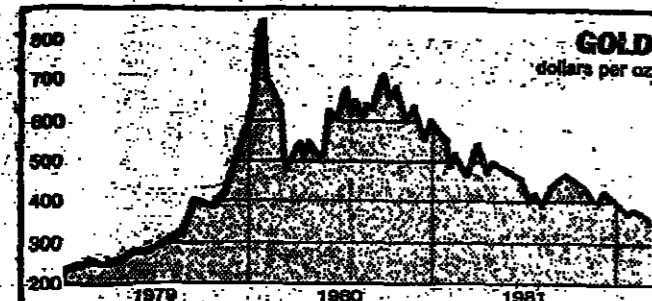
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Philatelic Correspondent writes:

# BUSINESS NEWS

## Gold fall continues



The price of gold fell below \$350 an ounce yesterday for the first time since September 1979, closing \$8.25 down in London to \$344.25. This represents a loss of \$22.25 on the week, and compares with \$400 an ounce fetched at the beginning of the year. Heavy persistent selling yesterday came with gloom over world recession and high interest rates, coupled with worries that more long-term holders of gold, notably in the Middle East, may try to sell.

### SE supports dealers' rules

The Stock Exchange yesterday expressed support for the new rules controlling the activities of licensed dealers in securities.

However, it is not prepared to concede that stockbrokers should be bound by similar rules. One of the main amendments to the rules for licensed dealers proposed by the Department of Trade was that clients' money must by law be kept separate from company funds. The Stock Exchange insists that a similar requirement for stockbrokers is unnecessary.

### Call to build warships

The Government has been urged to initiate a co-ordinated programme to boost sales of British-built warships to foreign navies. Ministers have also been asked to consider allowing British shipbuilders to build warship hulls on a speculative basis to preserve skills and maintain employment. No orders have been taken in the past eight years. The all party Industry and Trade Select Committee said yesterday that the Corporation felt the Government was not backing the corporation's warship marketing effort sufficiently.

### Weather hits beer output

Beer production in January dropped 21.5 per cent because of the bad weather, according to the Brewers' Society. December's weather hit sales leaving higher stocks than usual in the retail pipeline, with consequent decline in January orders. Poor weather in early January compounded the effect. The underlying trend is of a 6 per cent fall with current retail sales of beer down by at least that amount.

• Development of a new North Sea oil field, the Balmoral discovery 120 miles north east of Aberdeen, moved nearer yesterday with the announcement of a successful well by the British National Oil Corporation on block 16/2b.

### MARKET SUMMARY

#### Gilts are Budget gamble

#### LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 556.7 up 1.5.  
FT Gilts 67.89 up 0.47.  
FT All share 321.73 up 0.24.  
Bargains 23,830.

Interest rates continue to dominate market sentiment yesterday as both gilts and equities advanced in active trade.

Government securities were the main feature, scoring rises of up to £1 in longs and £6 in shorts as the market gambled on a further ½ per cent cut in interest rates ahead of next Tuesday's budget.

The bull again gained the upper hand in equities, where the FT Index closed 1.5 up at 556.7, having been 2.4 higher at midday.

Oil remained dull, still reflecting Wall Street's poor reception to the decision by BNOC to cut the price of North Sea oil by up to \$4 a barrel. Shell Transport slipped 4p to 338p as a line of 200,000 shares came on offer, with Ultramar losing 15p to 370p as a seller at 175,000 failed to agree on the right price.

There were also sellers of 300,000 London Bridge shares at 79p, 260,000 Oldsmobile up 3p to 84p, 75,000 Standard Chartered down 2p at 677p, 150,000 GEC & Duffus down 3p at 143p, and 100,000 Imperial Chemicals down 5p at 183p.

Burnham's bid for Croda has lapsed after Burnham refused to raise its original offer of 70p. Burnham's share with acceptances amounted to only 18.38 per cent of the ordinary shares.

Equity turnover on March 3 was £157.83m (20,293 bargains). Michael Clark

#### COMMODITIES

• Silver and platinum followed gold down. Silver spot bullion was fixed at 412.35p an ounce, a fall of 14.9p, and the lowest since 1979. Three month bullion was down by 15.55p to 426.1p an ounce.

• Platinum reached its lowest point since 1978, falling by \$10 to \$326.50 an ounce. No recovery is expected in either silver or platinum until gold recovers.

• Tin slipped again despite support by the International Tin Agreement buffer stock. Cash tin was £7,045 a tonne, £55 a tonne lower on the day, and three months metal fell 22p to £7,275. Tin for immediate delivery traded down by £6,950 in the morning. Purchases by consumers who have taken advantage of lower prices were less evident, and the broker claimed with the buying group which dominated the market was a leader of forward metal.

#### OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo:Nikkei Dow Jones average 7,354.82 down 119.60.

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,140.58 down 56.11.

#### CURRENCIES

• The pound maintained its resilient performance despite lower oil prices and expectations of a fall in interest rates.

#### STERLING

\$1.8280 up 50 points  
Index 91.0 up 0.2  
DM 4.3250  
Fr. 11.0450

#### DOLLAR

Index 113.0 down 0.1  
DM 2.3855 down 55 pts  
Gold \$344.25 down \$8.25

#### MONEY MARKETS

• Period rates were slightly lower where changed. The Bank forecasting a shortage of £450m, bought £52m of bills outright at unchanged rates and £392m of bills for repurchase by the houses on March 17 and 31.

#### Domestic Rates:

Base rates 13%  
3-month interbank 13 1/2%  
Euro-Currency Rates  
3-month dollar 14 1/2% - 14 1/4%  
3-month DM 9 1/2% - 9 1/4%  
3-month Fr. 15 1/2% - 15%

## Strike may cost railways Post Office contract

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Post Office is considering switching a larger proportion of letters and parcels to road and air transport as a result of the disruption to the postal service caused by the recent series of train drivers' strikes.

This new tough stance is being adopted by PO executives in negotiations that are now taking place with British Rail over the renewal of contracts — worth £45m last year to the rail network — for the distribution of mail.

Post Office negotiators, led by Mr Alan Clinton, the

board member for mails

network and development,

are claiming that although they were deprived of the rail service for three days a week, the cost of turning to extra road and air facilities was about the same as that charged by BR.

The only major inconveniences suffered by the Post Office during the 17 days of strike action was in sorting the mail.

Overnight mail trains

at the PO's travelling sorting offices — letters had to be sent out from different

centres causing dislocation in service.

As a result, only 70 per cent of first class mail was delivered the following day after posting compared with the figure of 90 per cent usually claimed by the Post Office. In consequence, the Post Office is claiming compensation from the railways of about £2m.

The Post Office has distributed the mail by train for more than 100 years and recognises that there is no practicable alternative for most letters and parcels.

During the rail strikes, it

that its revenue losses during the six-week drivers' dispute were more than £60m and fears that up to £150m a year of freight and passenger business could be lost permanently.

Discussions on the contract renewal are taking place against a background of Post Office confidence that it will turn in a profit of £80m this year and dismay that it will be unable to meet its £220m investment plans next year because of government-imposed financing constraints.

By Clifford Webb  
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Sir Michael Edwards, the chairman of BL, is expected to reveal shortly that despite £10m improvement from the former Austin Morris vehicle-car operation, the state-controlled group lost £500m last year compared with £555m in 1980.

In his fourth and last annual report Sir Michael, who has said he will leave in the autumn, is expected to make great play of the turnaround in the performance of the group's medium car side which is believed to have reduced its loss from £250m in 1980 to £150m last year.

But this improvement has been largely offset by the collapse of the truck and bus markets served by Leyland Vehicles. Losses of £47m in the first half have continued and Leyland Vehicles will be lucky to hold them to £80m for the year as a whole.

There has been little change in Jaguar's 1980 loss of £20m. A big improvement in its vital American sales came in the last quarter of the year but it was too late to influence the year-end results. But it could lead to it breaking even this year and making a profit in 1983.

Unipart, the group's parts and accessories company, and Land Rover are left as the only profitable operations.

Plant closures and redundancies have been costly but with the cars' labour force reduced from the present 76,000 to 68,000 by the end of this year, BL should be on target for a 1982 loss on cars of between £70m and £80m.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, has given no indication so far whether he intends to renew any of the appointments. He has been very critical of the performance of nationalised industries. Speaking to his research staff at Leatherhead he said: "There is a tendency, which I find regrettable, to use the public sector in general as a whipping boy for the nation's present economic difficulties".

It is not surprising if there is a feeling among staff that however hard they work, however well they face challenges, they can, in the eyes of some ministers, never get it right, simply because they work in a public enterprise.

The men whose appointments are at risk are Mr England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, made a thinly veiled attack yesterday on the Government's persistent criticism of the performance of nationalised industries. Speaking to his research staff at Leatherhead he said: "There is a tendency, which I find regrettable, to use the public sector in general as a whipping boy for the nation's present economic difficulties".

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Mr England's remarks are unlikely to endear him to the Government. They are made at a particularly sensitive time since no fewer than four of the five full-time board members of the CEBG, including Mr England himself, are being seen as one of

barely concealed defiance.

Mr England's speech yesterday was being seen as one of

States money supply, to be released later today.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve, told the Senate appropriations committee that the United States was turning the corner on inflation and that interest rates had nowhere to go but down.

• The liquidity of companies deteriorated in the fourth quarter of last year, according to the latest Department of Industry survey.



## CEGB chief defies Lawson criticism

By Johnathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, made a thinly veiled attack yesterday on the Government's persistent criticism of the performance of nationalised industries. Speaking to his research staff at Leatherhead he said: "There is a tendency, which I find regrettable, to use the public sector in general as a whipping boy for the nation's present economic difficulties".

The committee members, Lord Matthews, Sir Leo Piatzky, Mr Ellis Birk and Mr Tony Lucas, were chosen at an ACC board meeting yesterday, the first since a Court of Appeal judgment put the assets-rich entertainment-to-property group up for sale to the highest bidder.

In the afternoon directors met Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation brought the High Court action and who should despatch a formal offer document on Monday for a bid which values ACC at near £50m. The meeting, held seven weeks after it was first requested, was said to be constructive.

Meanwhile, negotiations on the sale of ACC's Cessna jet, the Airport Park Hotel in Los Angeles and the Classic cinema chain are now almost complete.

According to latest comparable figures prepared by the OECD, for Europe and North America, Britain's unemployment forecast for 1982 to 1.6 per cent of real community from the 2 per cent level predicted last autumn although it believes that by the end of 1982 growth could reach a 2.5 per cent annual rate.

EBC unemployment which rose by 180,000 people a month last year is expected to rise to 9.1 per cent of the labour force in 1982 against 7.9 per cent in 1981.

It is understood that Mr Ronson is offering no opposition to the sale of the jet or the hotel.

The City remained optimistic that the banks will make a further cut in their base lending rates next week barring any nasty inflationary surprises in Tuesday's Budget.

Period rates were again slightly easier where changed, particularly on bills and certificates of deposit. Indeed, the yield on three-month bills of just over 13 per cent, making bill finance appreciably cheaper than

overdraft finance, suggests the banks may see scope for more than the usual half point drop in base rates.

A certain amount may yet depend on dollar interest rates. This week has seen mixed movements in Euro-dollar interest rates and several Wall Street houses have raised their broker loan rates.

However, the market is looking for a significant fall in the weekly United

States money supply, to be released later today.

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From Bailey Morris Washington, March 4

The United States savings industry, alarmed by reports that as many as 1,000 thrift institutions could go under in the coming year, has asked the Reagan Administration to approve a massive \$10,000m bail-out programme for marginal institutions.

Warning of "imminent crisis," two associations representing more than 80 per cent of America's thrift institutions proposed a three-year aid programme to pump money into institutions and stimulate the housing market.

"We can no longer wait for interest rates to fall," Mr Roy G. Green, chairman of the United States League of Savings Associations said.

The League has supported the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks aid package.

If approved, the plan would rank as the largest Federal bail-out in modern times.

The Reagan administration has said repeatedly that it does not favour Federal aid to corporations, preferring instead to let market forces prevail.

This has been reiterated by both White House and Treasury officials. "This Administration strongly opposes any plan to bail out the ailing thrift industry," Mr Shannon Fairbanks, White House adviser on housing issues, said.

Still, the savings industry, which had a combined operating loss of more than \$6,000m last year, has considerable political support and could force the Administration into a compromise position.

Democrats on the House Banking Committee, for example, have already unveiled their own \$18,000m housing aid programme which includes support for thrift institutions.

## Rentokil Preliminary Announcement

1981 1980

£000 £000

Group turnover 97,982 82,100

Group profit before tax 14,201 10,929

Current cost 9,485

Group profit after tax 7,009 7,363

Current cost 3,737 4,030

Earnings per share: Historic 7.36p 7.75p

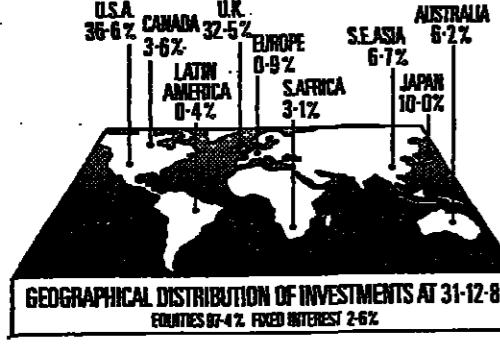
Current cost 3.92p 4.24p

Dividends: Interim paid 15.000% 13.570%

## BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

# Scottish United Investors

	1981	1980
Total Assets.	£133,488	£130,421,687
Net Assets	122,953,954	115,846,227
Net Asset Value	73.9p	69.7p
Gross Revenue	6,482,238	5,919,494
Net Revenue	2,639,493	2,509,803
Dividend	1.60p	1.53p



## PRINCIPALLY INVESTED OVERSEAS

Copies of the Accounts available from: SCOTTISH UNITED INVESTORS plc,  
37 RENFIELD STREET, GLASGOW G2 1JU

## M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

### The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price Chg.	Gross Divs	Yld %	Actual P/E	Taxed
125 100 Ass Brit Ind CULS	125	—	10.00	8.0	—	—	15.8	
75 62 Airsprings Group	72	+1	4.7	6.5	11.4	—	8.5	
51 33 Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	—	8.5	
205 187 Barlow Hill	198	—	9.7	4.4	9.6	—	11.7	
105 100 CCL 11% Conv Pref	105	+2	15.7	15.0	—	—	6.3	
104 67 Deborah Services	67	—	6.0	9.0	3.3	—	6.3	
131 97 Frank Horsell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	—	24.1	
83 39 Frederick Parker	81	—	6.4	7.3	4.1	—	7.3	
78 46 George Blair	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	
102 93 Ipd Pref Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	—	10.3	
106 100 Iis Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—	—	
113 94 Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	—	6.8	
130 108 James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	—	10.3	
334 248 Robert Jenkins	250	+2	31.3	12.5	3.5	—	8.5	
61 51 Scruttons "A"	61	—	5.3	8.7	9.4	—	8.7	
222 159 Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	—	9.5	
15 10 Twinlock Ord	13%	—	—	—	—	—	—	
80 66 Twinlock 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—	—	
44 25 Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	—	7.6	
103 73 Walter Alexander	77	—	6.4	8.3	5.1	—	9.0	
263 212 W. S. Yeates	226	-2	13.1	5.8	4.3	—	8.7	

Prices now available on Prestel page 43146

### Notice of Redemption

## International Standard Electric Corporation

9% Sinking Fund Debentures due 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of April 1, 1970 between International Standard Electric Corporation and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Trustee, \$1,463,000 in aggregate principal amount of the above-captioned Debentures will be redeemed for the sinking fund on April 1, 1982 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to April 1, 1982.

The numbers of the Debentures to be redeemed are as follows:

M 4	2043	3387	4658	5519	7044	8277	8465	10700	12337	14557	16728	18298	19750	21342	22365	23822	25855	26981	28177
8	2078	3392	4664	5523	7049	8283	8563	10710	12340	14587	16833	18328	19842	21344	22373	23826	25859	27017	28194
49	2114	3446	4689	5527	7082	8284	8562	10724	12371	14647	16827	18355	19849	21355	22383	23833	25880	27055	28232
50	2121	3452	4714	5565	7100	8250	8579	10725	12394	14791	16934	18907	1987	21387	22422	23872	25905	27103	28238
345	2151	3471	4716	5587	7101	8283	8577	10732	12397	14840	16907	18987	19997	21388	22421	23871	25913	27118	28221
75	2152	3476	4716	5588	7102	8284	8578	10732	12398	14841	16908	18988	19998	21389	22422	23872	25914	27119	28222
51	2153	3477	4716	5589	7103	8285	8579	10733	12399	14842	16909	18989	19999	21390	22423	23873	25915	27120	28223
205	2157	3478	4716	5590	7104	8286	8580	10734	12400	14843	16910	18990	19990	21391	22424	23874	25916	27121	28224
104	2158	3479	4716	5591	7105	8287	8581	10735	12401	14844	16911	18991	19991	21392	22425	23875	25917	27122	28225
131	2159	3479	4716	5592	7106	8288	8582	10736	12402	14845	16912	18992	19992	21393	22426	23876	25918	27123	28226
83	2160	3479	4716	5593	7107	8289	8583	10737	12403	14846	16913	18993	19993	21394	22427	23877	25919	27124	28227
78	2161	3479	4716	5594	7108	8290	8584	10738	12404	14847	16914	18994	19994	21395	22428	23878	25920	27125	28228
202	2162	3479	4716	5595	7109	8291	8585	10739	12405	14848	16915	18995	19995	21396	22429	23879	25921	27126	28229
105	2163	3479	4716	5596	7110	8292	8586	10740	12406	14849	16916	18996	19996	21397	22430	23880	25922	27127	28230
130	2164	3479	4716	5597	7111	8293	8587	10741	12407	14850	16917	18997	19997	21398	22431	23881	25923	27128	28231
84	2165	3479	4716	5598	7112	8294	8588	10742	12408	14851	16918	18998	19998	21399	22432	23882	25924	27129	28232
51	2166	3479	4716	5599	7113	8295	8589	10743	12409	14852	16919	18999	19999	21400	22433	23883	25925	27130	28233
222	2167	3479	4716	5600	7114	8296	8590	10744	12410	14853	16920	18990	19990	21401	22434	23884	25926	27131	28234
15	2168	3479	4716	5601	7115	8297	8591	10745	12411	14854	16921	18991	19991	21402	22435	23885	25927	27132	28235
223	2169	3479	4716	5602	7116	8298	8592	10746	12412	14855	16922	18992	19992	21403	22436	23886	25928	27133	28236
106	2170	3479	4716	5603	7117	8299	8593	10747	12413	14856	16923	18993	19993</td						

## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## PEOPLE

**Lloyd has new man of steel**

Forward, discreet accountant, Mr Lewis Robertson. He is the new chairman of F. H. Lloyd, the steamer. Outwardly Lloyd has got on rather well without a Supreme, since the turbulence of last August when Mr Ronald Middleton the chairman designate was, in the event, not asked to take office and Mr Robert Foster, the former incumbent, decided to stay on after planning to resign.

Key to this strange sequence was Cooper Industries which seemed to succeed with a boardroom coup on the back of a 29 per cent shareholding — which it still has. The investment protection committee of the British Insurance Association started, however, to throw its weight about noiselessly but effectively to spoil Cooper's game, aid with the help of headhunters has now discovered Robertson, 53, who tells me: "there is nothing organically wrong with Lloyd; it needs several months of calming down."



Mr Lewis Robertson

Ahaji M T Bature, managing director of Nigeria Airways is also a civil servant and a barrister. Surprisingly, perhaps he wants to see Nigeria Airways back in private hands. "We are in a very bad shape and slowing down all our projects," he said. "I would like to go private but I think I would still like to see the Nigerian Government have a say in the airline." It could be a private company within three years, he thinks, and once the loans are converted into equity, the airline could have capital of £100m instead of the current overdraft of £10m.



It's the new Government health warning it says: "Non-smoking is bad for revenue".

**J. R. hampered, not harassed**

An eventful first visit to London this week for Dr Jacques Rouquie. He is the president of the tourist committee of Lot, the bit of France west of Bordeaux and north of Toulouse where the foie gras comes from. He led a crowd of Lot noblemen and restaurateurs who were to be hosts at a lunch to launch the publication in this country of the *Logis de France* hotel guide.

With the delegation was supposed to arrive a hamper of Lot specialties, foie gras, truffles and fillet of smoked goose, but alas, British Airways said, the hamper was still in Paris — or somewhere.

Luckily BA managed to find and fly over the hamper just in time for lunch — whereupon one of the guests said: "Er, I'm a vegetarian..."

Dr Rouquie shrugged and said in French: "All's well that ends well," and got on with the first course, a walnut salad.

It will be fizzy drinks from vending machines around every corner soon if The Can Makers have their way. It is a trade organization just formed by the big can makers partly as a defence in the battle with glass and plastic bottles, as chairman John Preston admits. Preston, sales and marketing director of American Can (UK), yesterday launched a £100,000 scheme to persuade on a 50-50 cost basis the fillers of cans to flood Britain with fizzy drink vending machines. We have only about 1,000 at present.

Peter Wainwright

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

Mr Leslie Carpenter, chief executive of the publishing and printing products area, has been appointed to the new post of chief executive of Reed International from October 1, 1982. Sir Alex Forrest will continue as chairman of Reed International until 1983.

**Amersham affair — how much are the City experts really worth?**

Mr Michael Richardson of N. M. Rothschild & Sons is said to be close to the Prime Minister. It is ironic, therefore, that he should be at the centre of the storm over the Government's sale to the private sector last week of Amersham International which makes radio-active isotopes. Mr Richardson, head of corporate finance at Rothschild, is blamed on all sides for pricing Amersham too low and thereby depriving the Exchequer of £25m, or, in bricks and mortar terms, a couple of hospitals.

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"The City should adopt the same values as the private manufacturing sector. That is to provide value for money."

This senior industrialist believes that the fees of merchant banks and stockbrokers should be published and should in the case of yet more City profiteering at the expense of the taxpayer. Those in the know make money; those outside the charmed circle lose out.

On the heels of the privatization of British Aerospace last spring and Cable & Wireless in the autumn, the charge is that the Government has not only pursued its ideological aim of transferring public assets to the private sector, but in so doing, has made a great deal of money for its friends in the City.

But it is not only left-wing politicians and the taxpayer who have watched in anger and bewilderment as the speculators rush to make a sure-fire killing.

Industrialists, suffering from the worst recession in 50 years and forced to close many factories, are scratching the private at what they regard as the City's easy money-making machine.

Amersham, offered for sale at 142p, rose to 192p within two days, giving the stags a varying degree of good fortune.

It is not just the large premiums achieved on Amersham, and the two earlier privatisation issues, which angered the market at the sharp end. The age-old suspicion of those who make money from money instead of things, rose up once more when it was learned that the total cost of the £7m Amersham issue was £2.6m. Broken down, Rothschild, acting as merchant bank adviser to the Department of Energy, and Morgan Grenfell, acting for the company, picked up £100,000 between them. The stockbrokers and underwriters made £844,000. National Westminster, which was basically a clearing house for the application forms, collected £500,000, while the Government's stamp duty took £50,000.

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It is not just the large premiums achieved on Amersham, and the two earlier privatisation issues, which angered the market at the sharp end. The age-old suspicion of those who make money from money instead of things, rose up once more when it was learned that the total cost of the £7m Amersham issue was £2.6m. Broken down, Rothschild, acting as merchant bank adviser to the Department of Energy, and Morgan Grenfell, acting for the company, picked up £100,000 between them. The stockbrokers and underwriters made £844,000. National Westminster, which was basically a clearing house for the application forms, collected £500,000, while the Government's stamp duty took £50,000.

"We live in two completely different worlds", the deputy

managing director of one of Britain's largest multinationals says

# BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

## Stock Exchange Prices

# Gilts surge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, March 1. Dealings end, March 12. 5 Contango Day, March 15. Settlement Day, March 22.

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1981/82 High Low Stock		Int. Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield		Gross Div Yield																	
		Price Chg'ge % P/E		High Low Company		Price Chg'ge % P/E		High Low Company		Price Chg'ge % P/E		High Low Company		Price Chg'ge % P/E		High Low Company		Price Chg'ge % P/E															
<b>BRITISH FUNDS</b>																																	
<b>COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL</b>																																	
<b>A - B</b>																																	
SHORPS	1981/82	98.5	98.5	8.36	12.26	104	75	104	80	8.36	12.26	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	10.5 3.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	9.49	13.17	104	75	104	80	9.49	13.17	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	9.02	13.18	104	75	104	80	9.02	13.18	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	9.02	13.18	104	75	104	80	9.02	13.18	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	9.52	13.15	104	75	104	80	9.52	13.15	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	10.42	13.07	104	75	104	80	10.42	13.07	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	10.78	13.05	104	75	104	80	10.78	13.05	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	11.04	13.03	104	75	104	80	11.04	13.03	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	11.31	13.01	104	75	104	80	11.31	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	11.58	13.01	104	75	104	80	11.58	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	11.84	13.01	104	75	104	80	11.84	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	12.11	13.01	104	75	104	80	12.11	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	12.38	13.01	104	75	104	80	12.38	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	12.65	13.01	104	75	104	80	12.65	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	12.92	13.01	104	75	104	80	12.92	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	13.18	13.01	104	75	104	80	13.18	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	13.45	13.01	104	75	104	80	13.45	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	13.72	13.01	104	75	104	80	13.72	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	14.08	13.01	104	75	104	80	14.08	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	14.35	13.01	104	75	104	80	14.35	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	14.62	13.01	104	75	104	80	14.62	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	14.89	13.01	104	75	104	80	14.89	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	15.15	13.01	104	75	104	80	15.15	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	15.42	13.01	104	75	104	80	15.42	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	15.69	13.01	104	75	104	80	15.69	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	16.06	13.01	104	75	104	80	16.06	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	16.32	13.01	104	75	104	80	16.32	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	16.59	13.01	104	75	104	80	16.59	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	16.86	13.01	104	75	104	80	16.86	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	17.13	13.01	104	75	104	80	17.13	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	17.4	13.01	104	75	104	80	17.4	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	17.67	13.01	104	75	104	80	17.67	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	18.04	13.01	104	75	104	80	18.04	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	18.31	13.01	104	75	104	80	18.31	13.01	104	75	104	80	125	64	125	4.5 4.5														
98.5	98.5	94.5	94.5	18.58	13.01	104	75	104	80	18.58	13.																						

## SPORT

## FOOTBALL

## Scots build an elite highway to survival

A survival plan for Scottish football has been worked out after threats that some clubs would form a breakaway group. It will be discussed by the Scottish League management committee in three weeks. It entails increasing the premier division from 18 to 16 teams with two non-League sides being invited to join the League.

The move comes after rumours of dissatisfaction among leading clubs suffering a slump in attendance and rumours of a new league. It seems likely that if the plan is successful one club from the Highland League and another from the Border Counties will be invited to become part of the Scottish League.

Relegation would be abandoned in the premier division this season with the top six from the existing first division joining the 10 sides now forming the League. A spot in the top flight will go to the meeting which is described as "essential to its safeguarding the existence of the game".

The proposals are designed to take effect from next season. A two-thirds majority is required to bring them to fruition. The title "Premier Division" will be scrapped and the new leagues will be named One, Two and Three.

Celtic's home attendance was 9,000 for their pre-game against Morton on Wednesday night - their lowest for many years. Appropriately, one of the staunchest advocates of a sweeping change is the new manager, Hal Stewart. This week ago he issued a document on behalf of his club to all clubs pleading with them to back a change in the League format.

Mr Stewart stresses that it is bank managers who run football clubs nowadays and that "they are the first people we must satisfy".

## The Bond bond may be broken

Kevin Bond has asked his father, John, for a transfer from Manchester City. He feels a move would be the best solution for an uneasy situation in the city but about because City's best under-21 international, Reid, said he would not play in midfield and wanted one of the central defensive positions. Bond and Caton have been playing there and Reid feels he has been played out of position in midfield.

□ Brazil were beaten by a forced 100,000 home crowd in Rio on Saturday. They lost 1-0 after a colourless 1-1 draw against Czechoslovakia. The Brazilian midfield quickly took control of the game but their forwards missed several promising chances until Zico opened the scoring after 40 minutes. Berger equalized from a counter-attack in the 17th minute.

□ George Berry, the Wolverhampton Wanderers' defender, has been suspended for one

## Hull manager sacked by official receiver

By Norman Fox

Mike Smith, the Hull City and former Wales manager, is to take legal action over his dismissal yesterday by the official receiver, who called in to deal with Hull's financial crisis.

Mr Smith was told by the receiver, Mr Martin Spencer, that because of the club's insolvency his contract, believed to be worth a total of £175,000, Mr Lee's contract was for the same period and estimated to be worth £125,000. Mr Dimbleby's contract was to expire in July 1983.

Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, said the move could bring a reduction between the players, all of whom are on the transfer list, and the club. He also felt it could help relations between the PFA and the League.

The PFA feel that too much credit is given to football's financial crisis being placed on players. Mr Smith, a quiet respected manager, is a player respects manager, chairman to stop providing funds.

Mr Smith's five-year contract had nearly three years to run, and he was not asked to leave.

Mr Spencer said that the club could no longer afford them. He also asked Christopher Needler, the chairman, to stop providing funds.

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# helps tation

By Michael Seely

Temporary peace with honour seems to be the reaction on all sides to the Home Secretary's decision to increase the rate of betting levy by £2 per cent in the 21st Levy Scheme, which starts this April.

After scrutinising the report submitted by Mr David Pollard, the association appointed to study bookmakers' accounts and also studying submissions from both the Horse Races Betting Levy Board and from the betting industry, Mr William Whitelaw issued the following statement yesterday:

"Even for those bookmakers in the highest category, an increase in the existing levy rate of 11 per cent could be met entirely out of the existing deduction. Bearing this in mind, and having regard to the nature of racing, it is decided that levies should be increased by 12 per cent. Mr Langdon estimates that the horse racing turnover will increase by 4 per cent in the period of the 21st Levy Scheme. On that assumption the rates of levy which I have determined should produce a yield of about £20 million a year, am satisfied the bookmakers will be able to make the contribution to the levy at this rate without making any increase in their deductions from the punter."

This estimated figure of £20m represents an increase of £2.4m on last year's figure of £17.6m, which is 24.4 per cent above what was asked for by the Levy Board.

However, Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Levy Board, expressed himself as being reasonably satisfied. He said that the increase would alleviate some of the pressure of the recession, though the amount was less than that originally asked for. He thought that the continuing effects of the recession, the revenue lost by the freeze up and the necessity to maintain bookmakers profits at an adequate level all had a bearing on it.

Mr Langdon said: "I think some such needed projects to aid the industry might have to be shelved for the time being, he saw no reason why existing commitments should not continue to be met. Lord Plummer concluded by saying that the government would be assessing further steps to be taken to help bookmakers study the implications with care."

Ron Pollard, a director of Ladbrokes said: "We are disappointed that there has been an

## Peace with honour on levy rate

RACING



Border Incident in action at Newbury after a recurrence of back trouble

but feels that the Home Secretary has done his best to balance his books. If the anticipated 6 per cent increase in turnover takes place, we anticipate no problems and will keep our deductions from the punters at their present rate."

Lord Wiggy said that he congratulated Mr Langdon and Messrs Spencer and Parker on an excellent report and finds no reason to disagree with their figures. "I do feel, however, that Mr Langdon may, perhaps, have underestimated the effect of the continuing rise in inflationary costs."

Lord Wiggy also felt that the extent of the Levy Board and Jockey Club's needs had to be balanced against the bookmakers' capacity to pay and that what this report had acknowledged. He still thought, however, that the root of the trouble lay in the exorbitantly high rate of taxation which could not exist without the other. And considering that the government is asking for an increase of about £200,000 per annum from the money generated by their activities, they might find a joint committee easier to deal with. For all after, apart from the owners, the punters are the main contributors to the industry.

That must be something in what he says. There are 100,000 people employed in the business, by the bookmakers and the Tote, and 20,000 actively engaged in the running of the sport. Both sides are entirely interdependent. The one could not exist without the other. And considering that the government is asking for an increase of about £200,000 per annum from the money generated by their activities, they might find a joint committee easier to deal with.

Lord Wiggy concluded by saying that it was high time that the racing industry and bookmakers put their heads together and issued a joint report to the government.

## Reid rides Socks Up

John Reid, who has been riding in Australia this winter, will again be first jockey to Fulke Johnston, Houghton's Blenbury stable this flat season and one of his first rides will be Socks Up in the Lincoln Handicap.

Johnson's Blenbury has high hopes too, for the fully Eustachia, and has entered her for the English, French and Irish Classics. Eustachia, a good runner-up in Dawn-Duty at Salisbury in September, is unlikely to have her first start until June.

In 1980, he was ridden by his new trainer, Brod. Munro-Wilson,

to Montekin in the Morris Hill at Newbury. I am more than pleased with his progress, and although I have entered him for the Newmarket, French 2000 Guineas, I think he is more a Derby horse than the Novice Mile could be a little sharp for him.

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## Barry aboard Coolishall

Ron Barry, the Northern jockey will have his first Grand National ride for six years when he partners Broderick Munro-Wilson's Coolishall at Aintree next month.

Coolishall, now a 13-year-old, will be making his fifth attempt to win the race in successive years. In 1978, the gelding finished a close fourth to Lucas and the following year, with Tony Webber aboard, he fell at the final fence.

Amuro-Wilson plans to give Coolishall two runs before the big day. He will ride the gelding himself in the Horse and Hounds Grand Military Gold cup at Kempton on March 12 and then Ron Barry will take over in the Kentor Handicap Steeplechase at Newbury a week before Aintree.

He has won two of his three races under National Hunt rules and it will not escape the notice of some that he also beat the current Triumph favourite, Royal Vulcan, by a length in a valuable handicap, run over a mile and a half at Epsom last June.

## Haydock Park

Tote Double: 3.0 and 4.0. Treble: 2.15, 3.15 and 4.15.

1.45 TWEEDLEBURN HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,052: 2m) (15 runners)

1.50 WALRUS HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,052: 2m) (13 runners)

1.55 WHATCOMBE HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,052: 2m) (13 runners)

2.0 EXPRESS YOUNG CHASERS (22/731: 2½m) (14)

2.0 WHATCOMBE HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,052: 2m) (13)

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"...DEVISE not evil against thy neighbour, seeing he dwelleth by thee." Proverbs 3:29.

## BIRTHS

HETT.—On March 3rd, 1982, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, Alan John Villiers, D.S.C., son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Margaret Hett, died. Funeral, Saturday, private. No flowers. Donations to the Royal Free Hospital Appeal Fund.

NICHES.—On March 2nd, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, Charles, a dear loved son of Charles and Barbara Niches, died. Funeral arrangements to be made.

MARSH.—On 1st March, 1982, to Charles and Jeal—Marshall.

MARTIN.—3rd March. At the West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone, Kent. Michael Martin, son of James and Shirley Martin.

MESSEY.—On March 4th, to Charles and Jeal—Marshall.

OLIVER.—On February 9th, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, Oliver, son of Michael Roger Oliver and son of John Andrew and Christine.

POWELL.—With February, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, David Powell, son of Michael Powell and David and Christine.

PROUD.—On March 3rd, at Queen Charlotte's, London, David and Margaret Mary, Donald James and Ian.

WATTS.—On February 23rd, at St. Paul's Church, Fulham, (See Valdene and Richard), a daughter, Alexandra Phillips, was born, a sibling to Emma and Victoria.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

NANNIES (KENSINGTON). We have a room from Saturday to Sunday, 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. £5.00.

WOMEN DRIVERS Special Licence INSURANCE. Northern 883 1210.

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Brechures only from: VENTURE HOLIDAYS 100-2000, 2nd floor, 22a Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1. Tel: 01-521 5780 ATOL 1170.

TUSCANY—Beautiful farm house on our own estate, near Lucca, includes place on private beach. Tel. 0586 770000, 0586 770001, 0586 770002, 0586 770003, 0586 770004, 0586 770005, 0586 770006, 0586 770007, 0586 770008, 0586 770009, 0586 770010, 0586 770011, 0586 770012, 0586 770013, 0586 770014, 0586 770015, 0586 770016, 0586 770017, 0586 770018, 0586 770019, 0586 770020, 0586 770021, 0586 770022, 0586 770023, 0586 770024, 0586 770025, 0586 770026, 0586 770027, 0586 770028, 0586 770029, 0586 770030, 0586 770031, 0586 770032, 0586 770033, 0586 770034, 0586 770035, 0586 770036, 0586 770037, 0586 770038, 0586 770039, 0586 770040, 0586 770041, 0586 770042, 0586 770043, 0586 770044, 0586 770045, 0586 770046, 0586 770047, 0586 770048, 0586 770049, 0586 770050, 0586 770051, 0586 770052, 0586 770053, 0586 770054, 0586 770055, 0586 770056, 0586 770057, 0586 770058, 0586 770059, 0586 770060, 0586 770061, 0586 770062, 0586 770063, 0586 770064, 0586 770065, 0586 770066, 0586 770067, 0586 770068, 0586 770069, 0586 770070, 0586 770071, 0586 770072, 0586 770073, 0586 770074, 0586 770075, 0586 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# Britain's EEC bill set to reach £540m

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

EEC membership is likely to cost Britain some £540m in 1982 according to Treasury estimates, unless a restructuring of the community budget is agreed quickly.

This figure is the basis of the case for a final settlement of the problem of the budget's imbalance to be put to the European Council by the Prime Minister at the end of this month.

Mr Thatcher is likely to have a double difficulty. There will be resistance to the merits of the British case, since eight member countries are not beneficiaries of the present system, with West Germany the only other net contributor. And the Treasury figures like all forecasts, are highly debatable.

Britain's net contribution in 1982 was given as £622m in a White Paper published yesterday. Gross contributions were estimated at £2,667m and receipts at £2,045m, including the £65m rebate on Britain's 1981 contributions which the Common Public Accounts Committee requires to be included in the year it is received.

The net figure was at once revised downwards by some

£80m—to £540m—by Treasury sources who explained that extra repayments were expected which had not been allowed for.

If the budget is not restructured, the compensation formula for Britain which was agreed two years ago will apply in 1982 for the third successive year. It is likely to yield according to the Treasury's best estimate.

Another reason for scepticism in the community about the British case is the fact that Britain's deficit in 1981 has proved to be much smaller than expected.

The agreement reached in May, 1980, expected Britain to show a "loss" of about £440m in its dealings with the community. The latest Treasury estimate is between £55m and £155m.

Whitehall insists that this is for special reasons that will not recur; higher world food prices which reduced the cost of EEC export subsidies; the unexpectedly high value of sterling last year, and Britain's unexpectedly high share of ordinary receipts from the community.

## In law some women are more equal than others

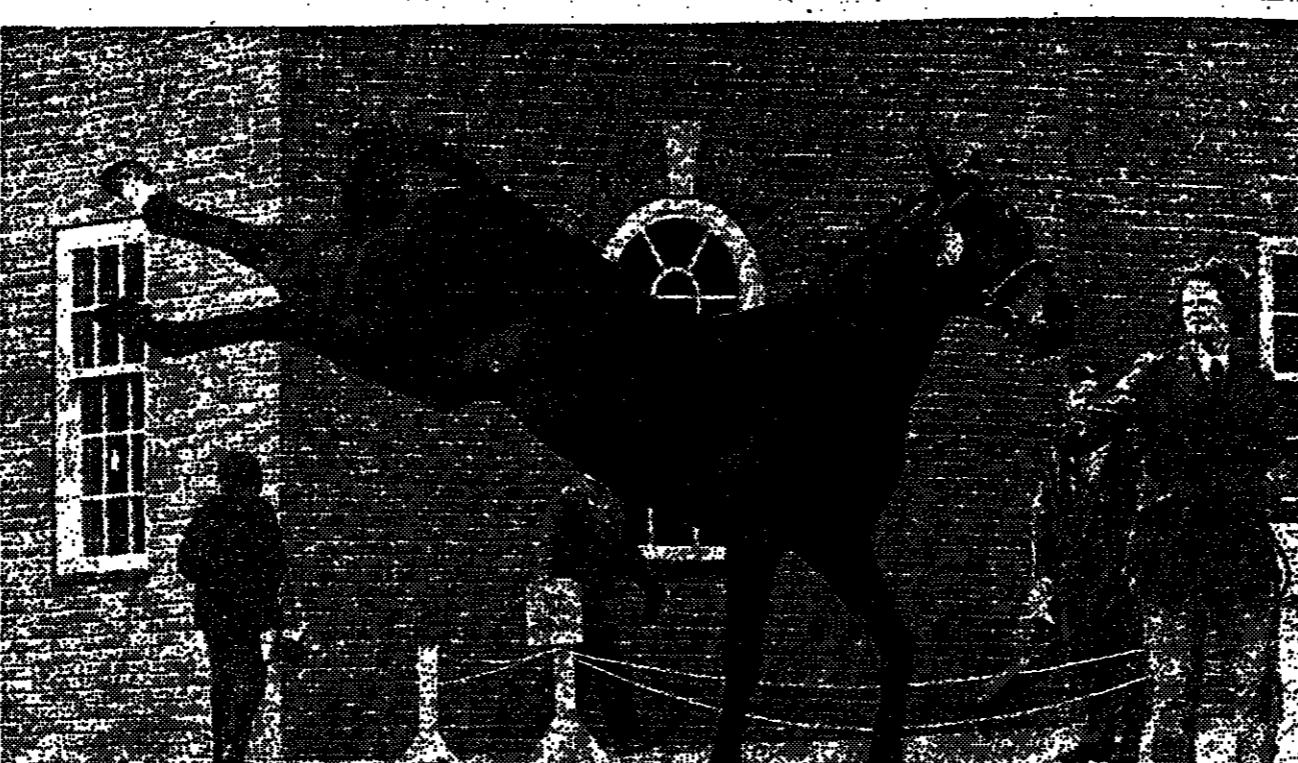
From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 4

Sex discrimination against men is one of the reasons that Britain is to be taken before the European Court for failing to bring its laws in line with EEC legislation.

Along with Belgium and Italy, Britain is in the first group of countries to be prosecuted for refusing to alter its legislation on equal rights.

The British response was a strong defence of its existing legislation on the points at issue. According to the Commission: "If anything the British position hardened so there was no alternative to bring the prosecution."

The main point at issue is that British law does not specifically require all trade union agreements to respect the principle of equal treatment of men and women.



A stallion stretches its legs before entering the arena at the thoroughbred stallion show in Newmarket yesterday. The Queen presented the trophies, awarded by the judges (immediately above) of the Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society. The stallion gaining most marks for "service and foaling returns" was Polito, awarded the Henry Tudor Cup. This was collected by Mrs Margot Peacock of Mickie Trafford, Chester.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales attends a ceremony to commemorate the diamond jubilee of the Commonwealth Seafarers Association at Westminster Abbey, London, 3.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference, attends a meeting with the 1986 Start Up Group in Bombay.

#### New exhibitions

Nancy Mulder: *Meditations*, and *Sky Falls* by Jenny Cowen, Crawford Centre for Arts, Uni-

versity of St Andrews, Scotland; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2 to 5; (both until March 28).

Gentle Eye, photographs by Jane Bow of The Observer, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 5; Sun 2 to 5; (until April 11).

John Ruskin: an exhibition of drawings and watercolours, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thursday until 9; (until May 3).

Last chance to see

Scottish pottery, examples of wares of some of the Scottish factories from the late eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth century, Perth Museum and Art Gallery, George Street, Perth; 10 to 1 and 2 to 5.

Talks, lectures

Conversations on curtains, by Iain MacIntosh, Museum of London, London WC1, EC2, 1.10.

Crop: A hilly river landscape, by Andrew P. Tyndall, National Gallery, 1.

Cardinal Glass and Ottoman art, by Geoffrey Stone, 11.30; the location of archaeological sites, by David Williams, 1.15; both at British Museum.

George Stubbs by Mary Macken, Tate Gallery, 1.

Music

Organ recital by Ian Tracey, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Recital by members of the French song class, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, EC2, 1.10.

Mid-Somerset competitive festival, Gildhill Pump Room, and Technical College, Bath, Fri 5 to Sat 6, 10 to 5; Wed 10 to Sat 13 to 5; Sun 14 to 5; Mon 14 to Sat March 20, 10 to 5.

Concert by Northern Sinfonia Orchestra, Alnwick Castle, Northumberland, 7.30.

General

The King's Opera Group presents a production of Walton's *Façade*; and Weill's *Mahagonny Songs*, New Theatre, Strand Building, Kings College, London, 7.30.

London: The FT Index closed up 1.5 at 556.7.

Rates for small denomination bank notes as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd, Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT Index closed up 1.5 at 556.7.

Gardens open

TOMORROW: Sussex West: Berri Court, Yapton, five miles sw of Arundel; three-acre garden, trees, shrubs, heathers. 2-6 pm. The Coach House, Horsham, seven miles w of Horsham; interesting and difficult garden on north facing slope and heavy clay. Plants for sale. 2-6 pm. Hampshire, Chertsey, Surrey, three miles s of Chertsey; two-acre garden, trees, shrubs, chalk stream. 2-6 pm. Somerset, Clapton Court, three miles s of Cirencester, B3165, 10 acres, unusual trees, shrubs, etc. Plants for sale. 2-6 pm. Every day except Saturday, 10-5 pm. Renfrewshire, Auchengrane, Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire; woodland carpeted with snowdrops; produce stall. 2-5.30 pm. Gloucestershire: Gloucester, The Old Swan Inn, Tewkesbury. Over one-acre garden, trees, shrubs, herbaceous and alpine plants. Plants for sale. Every Monday 2-6 pm or dusk. Sundays 2-6 pm. (Portsmouth Road, Tewkesbury, 293516). No Sundays.

Food prices

With little incentive to retailers to make discounts, meat prices remain generally high and continue to show little change from one week to the next. The meat price is probably the best buy, and New Zealand lamb is on average 20p a lb cheaper than English lamb and veal. Pork, however, is surprisingly good.

Seasonal fruit from South Africa, including apples, plums and grapes, is expensive. English plums are still available and reasonably priced, but Conference pears can be found at their best, neither too hard nor overripe and messy.

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

### Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:

- 1 Reds
- 2 Absence of Malice
- 3 Death Wish II
- 4 Halloween II
- 5 Arthur
- 6 Taps
- 7 Dragonslayer
- 8 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
- 9 Fort Apache, The Bronx
- 10 Body Heat

The top five in the provinces:

- 1 Bedknobs and Broomsticks
- 2 Condorman
- 3 Water Babies
- 4 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!
- 5 Sleeping Beauty

Compiled by Screen International

### The papers

The Daily Mirror today compares the "lad's army", the new adventure training scheme for young people, proposed by Mr John Nott, the Secretary of State for Defence, with what it calls his new version of Dad's Army.

The Government wants to recruit 4,500 men to beat off Soviet tank troops. That is an average of 44 men to beat off each attack. It should be quite a fight," it writes.

In Paris, Le Matin announces that France will produce its own neutron bomb and says: "France is determined to seize the opportunity moment to announce a decision which virtually has already been taken."

Commenting on the French government decision to lower petrol prices, Le Journal des Dépôts says: "This is the moment which risks to give the death stroke to the refining industry."

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